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# The Flat Hat

SEPTEMBER 9, 2005 VOL.95, NO.29

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY SINCE 1911

<http://flathat.wm.edu>

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## Area gas prices reach new highs



ALEX HAGLUND • THE FLAT HAT

*In the wake of hurricane Katrina, gas prices across the country have soared to record highs, putting a squeeze on student commuters.*

BY ANNE FLATIN  
THE FLAT HAT

Students at the College with cars have felt the side effects of hurricane Katrina in their wallets when filling up at the pump as gas prices in Williamsburg rose this week to record highs.

In addition to wreaking havoc on the Gulf coast, Katrina also destroyed oil and gas production platforms located in the Gulf of Mexico. Oil refineries in Louisiana and Mississippi were forced to shut down, cutting off 95 percent of the Gulf’s output. The refineries in this region produced over 25 percent of domestic oil, and their loss has fueled the drastic rise in prices. According to the Energy Information Administration, 58 percent of the Gulf’s production, which has an oil-refining capac-

ity of roughly 900,000 barrels per day, may still be offline at the end of September. Fortunately for consumers at the College, prices are already beginning to fall.

“Recovery in the refining sector depends on how fast the affected refineries can return to normal operations and the capabilities of refineries outside the hurricane-stricken area to increase their rates to make up for the lost capacity,” the EIA said in its monthly prediction of energy supply and demand.

The group added that it expects U.S. gas prices to remain over \$3 per gallon for the rest of September.

As of Wednesday, the average price of a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline in the Williamsburg

**See GAS + page 3**

## SA launches new recycling project

*Slated to begin this month, the SA has pledged \$25,000 in funding*

BY ERIN GRADY  
THE FLAT HAT

The Student Assembly is slated to launch its new campus-wide recycling program later this month by pledging \$25,000 from the student activities reserve fund over the next two years to the venture. Members of the SA say they hope that relying on students will make the program a success and bring recycling to the forefront of student consciousness.

The program has come under scrutiny due to the financial responsibility of taking on such a large venture. Sophomore Sen. William McClain, the SA recycling coordinator, defended the program, saying that “the hope of this, fiscally, is to ease the cost of main trash removal.”

According to Anita Hamlin, the student activities accountant, the money for the program will be taken from the Activities and Organizations Reserve fund.

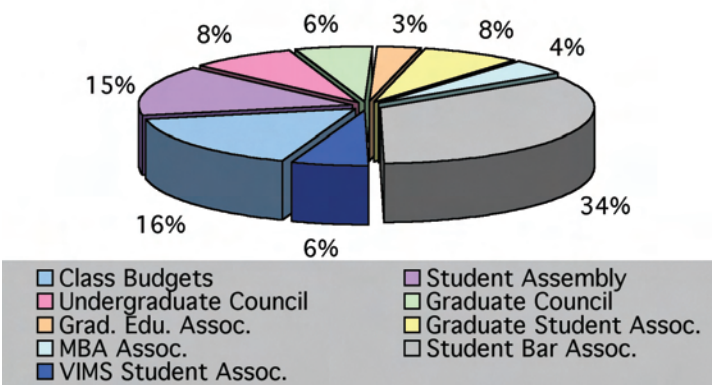
The reserve fund is made up of money left over from the year’s budgets from all of the student activities at the College. At the beginning of this year, the reserve fund totaled \$125,000. In the beginning of 2003, that fund totaled \$146,000; in the beginning of 2004 the total was closer to \$152,000.

The SA’s budget is separate from the reserve fund. The SA’s budget for this year is \$60,415. The monies are divided between the four classes as well as the Undergraduate Council, the Graduate Council and other student government organizations. The approved budget is spent on supplies, activities, and any other general expenses that the groups have.

“Each sanctioned group on campus gets a certain amount of money based on their needs. The SA is no different,” junior Victor Sulkowski, SA director of internal affairs, said.

According to Student Assem-

### Student Assembly Allocations 2005-2006



bly Chief of Staff James Evans, the reserve funds are can be used for additional and unbudgeted expenditures.

“The reserves exist primarily for emergencies,” he said. “The funds are allocated based on the unbudgeted needs of student organizations.”

In recent years the reserve has been used for everything from purchasing new campus vans to bringing the Pat McGee band to campus.

“In the past, the SA has been accused of being fiscally irresponsible,” Evans said. “In re-

ality, everything that we budget goes back to the students. We look for ways to make a long-lasting effect on campus with our fiscal decisions.”

Members of the SA say they are hoping that the recycling program will have just that effect on the College. They say they believe that by adding recycling sites around campus, students will become more involved in the program. “This is a chance to change the College and the world’s environment,” McClain said. “It is

**See RECYCLING + page 3**

### ATTACK OF THE MONSTER SUNDAE



ALICE HAHN • THE FLAT HAT

*Students gather around a giant 200-pound ice cream sundae built inside a kiddie pool Tuesday in the University Center Center Court Dining Hall. A plethora of toppings, including several kinds of nuts, hot fudge and sprinkles, were available for the sundae, which was built from tubs of ice cream.*

## Pat McGee concert raises over \$800 for hurricane Katrina relief

BY SHAWNA OHMS  
THE FLAT HAT

The Student Assembly’s presentation of the Pat McGee Band yesterday evening sold over 800 tickets, with a dollar of each ticket going to the hurricane Katrina relief effort, junior Sen. Greg Teich said. The concert was one of many events that are being held by student groups across campus as part of Project Relief. The project coordinates the multiple relief efforts for hurricane victims by various student groups on campus.

Students at a meeting last Thursday determined that the project would unite relief efforts that various groups on campus have started in order to make donating more successful and avoid repetition. The project found a donor to match every dollar up to \$10,000 and ensured that a portion of the proceeds from yesterday’s Pat McGee Band concert will go towards hurri-

cane relief. All donations will go to the American Red Cross. The SA is also selling T-shirts to raise money. For more information, see SENATE, page 3.

Project Relief will also coordinate sessions with the local Red Cross to train students who want to go to the gulf region and help with the clean-up. Currently, only trained professionals are being allowed in the areas affected by the disaster. After they handle the initial clean-up, the Red Cross will send trained volunteers. Students interested in traveling to the disaster areas as volunteers can e-mail asholt@wm.edu or ermahx@wm.edu for more information.

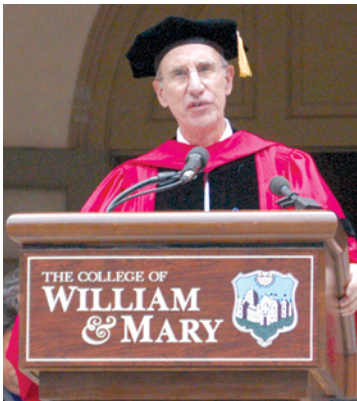
While the College community is organizing relief efforts, it is also opening its doors to Virginia residents who attend colleges in the Gulf that remain closed due to Katrina. The College will house some students on campus, while some will be re-

quired to commute due to space considerations. In addition, dining and parking services have been working to provide the new students with bags of food and parking passes to ease the transition to the College.

The Dean of Students Office is also coordinating efforts to ease the transition for new students. There is a special orientation program for incoming students this Sunday that will include a panel of undergraduates and a welcome dinner. Many students have also volunteered to be “welcoming neighbors” who will take the new students out to dinner, movies, outings and help get them acclimated to life at the College.

Tables will be set up in the University Center and the Campus Center so that organizations or individuals who want to become involved in Project Relief can sign up. Students may also sign up on the website, [www.wm.edu/projectrelief](http://www.wm.edu/projectrelief).

## Student forum on restructuring initiative scheduled for next week



LAUREN BRYANT • THE FLAT HAT

**College Provost Geoffrey Feiss**

BY AUSTIN WRIGHT  
THE FLAT HAT

Students will have a chance to voice their opinions about the Higher Education Restructuring Act of 2005 with President Gene Nichol, Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler and other administrators at a forum scheduled for Sept. 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the Commonwealth Auditorium.

After a decade of declining state support for public institutions of higher education, College administrators say they hope that the Restructuring Act will become

a new and better contract between the state and public colleges and universities.

“[The Restructuring Act] provides for a more reliable funding model and enhanced operating authority for the Board of Visitors,” Provost Geoffrey Feiss said in an e-mail sent to students Sept. 2. “In exchange for these flexibilities, the Restructuring Act requires the College to fulfill requirements commonly called the ‘state ask.’”

The “state ask” consists of three sections that the College must address as the Restructuring Act comes into place: enrollment, academic and financial issues.

The Enrollment Projection Plans were submitted over the summer and recently approved by the State Council of Higher Education, but the Academic and Financial Plans are slated to be submitted to the State Council this fall. The six-year plan will go into effect July 1, 2006.

Priorities listed in the draft for the College over the next six years include attracting and retaining high quality faculty and staff through annual measured faculty

salary increases, attracting and retaining a strong and diverse student body by modernizing campus residence halls and other facilities, maintaining and enhancing high quality academic programs through academic building renovations and expanding revenues.

The academic component of the draft includes a plan to increase enrollment by 7 percent, while the in-state enrollment will increase by 14.4 percent, or about 126 students.

“About half of this increase will come in the graduate and professional programs,” Feiss said. “There will be no increase in the size of the freshman class.”

According to the draft, the College will try to increase dramatically the number of students admitted from community colleges.

The size of each undergraduate class will not increase because transfer students will be accepted to replace students who study abroad during the year and students who graduate within three years.

**See FORUM + page 3**



QUOTATION  
of the week

“Most men pursue pleasure with such  
breathless haste that they hurry past it.”  
SOREN KIERKEGAARD  
WWW.QUOTATIONSPAGE.COM

Inside this week’s issue



Sponsored by the SA and cultural organizations on campus, Mosaic promises to raise awareness and entertain.  
See CULTURAL, page 7.



“The Great Raid” delves into the little known story of U.S. troops trying to free prisoners of war at Cabanatuan Camp during the second World War.  
See DIRECTOR, page 11.



Are Colonel Ebirt’s days numbered? An alum speaks up about the need to abandon the “Tribe.”  
See NCAA, page 5.



Do you enjoy dangling high in the air? Check out the rock climbing club.  
See RACKET, page 14.



The Flat Hat is currently in the process of revamping our online section. To serve the College better, Online will begin updating three times per week: Monday by midnight, Wednesday by midnight and Friday afternoon.  
See <http://flathat.wm.edu/>

OPINIONS, PAGE 5 + VARIETY, PAGE 7 + REVIEWS, PAGE 11  
BRIEFS, PAGE 13 + SPORTS, PAGE 14

# The Flat Hat

## ‘Stabilitas et Fides’

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Letters to the Editor and Opinions columns are due at 5 p.m. Tuesday for publication the following Friday. All submissions must be typed and double-spaced, and must include the author’s name, telephone number and any relevant titles or affiliations with campus or national groups. Letters should be no more than 300 words, columns should be no more than 700 words. Letters must be e-mailed to fhops@wm.edu.

The Flat Hat reserves the right to edit all material. Because of space limitations, The Flat Hat may not publish all submissions.

The Flat Hat Editorial Board meets weekly to discuss the position taken by editorials. Unsigned editorials are written by the Editor or a designated member of the Editorial Board. All Board editorials reflect the consensus of the Editorial Board. Letters, columns, graphics and cartoons reflect the view of the author only.

The Flat Hat wishes to correct any facts printed incorrectly. Corrections may be submitted by e-mail to the section editor in which the incorrect information was printed. Requests for corrections will be accepted at any time.

Beyond the ‘Burg

◆ Travelling video game tournament visits K-State

(U-WIRE) MANHATTAN, Kan. — The 2005 NCAA Football Challenge staff cleared space in the Courtyard of the Kansas State University’s Student Union Thursday to make room for 34 televisions and Xbox gaming consoles.

K-State was the third university the traveling video game tournament visited, Faruq Tauheed, Challenge emcee, said.

In the next three months, the tournament, sponsored by Electronic Arts Sports, NCAA, Xbox and Best Buy, will travel to an additional 13 universities across the nation, picking one person from each school to participate in the final competition.

Mike Brown, Challenge commissioner, said the K-State turnout was great.

One hundred twenty-eight students signed up for the event, but after four-and-a-half hours playing EA Sports’ NCAA Football ‘06, Dustin Marsh, a junior in landscape architecture, won the grand prize.

Marsh played using the Texas Longhorns.

He sported a Longhorns hat for the competition. The team won him a trip to New York City to participate in the finals of the 2005 NCAA Football Challenge Dec. 9 to 11.

If Marsh wins the finals in New York, he will be invited to attend the 2005 Heisman Trophy Award Dinner on Dec. 12 and will receive \$10,000. “It’s unreal,” Marsh said. “I’m in shock.”

Many of the competitors accidentally stumbled into the gaming ring.

“I just wanted the free T-shirt,” Nathan Zumbaugh, a junior in mechanical engineering, said.

Zumbaugh lost in the first round, saying he didn’t know how to play.

“I just pushed buttons,” Zumbaugh said.

Marsh, too, found himself pulled into the tournament. A friend called him after class and Marsh rushed to the Union to play.

Having never played the game on an Xbox, Marsh expected to lose in the first round. He was wrong....

— By Laura Noll, Kansas State Collegian (Kansas State U.)  
— compiled by austin wright

WEEKEND  
WEATHER

Friday



High 90°  
Low 65°

Saturday



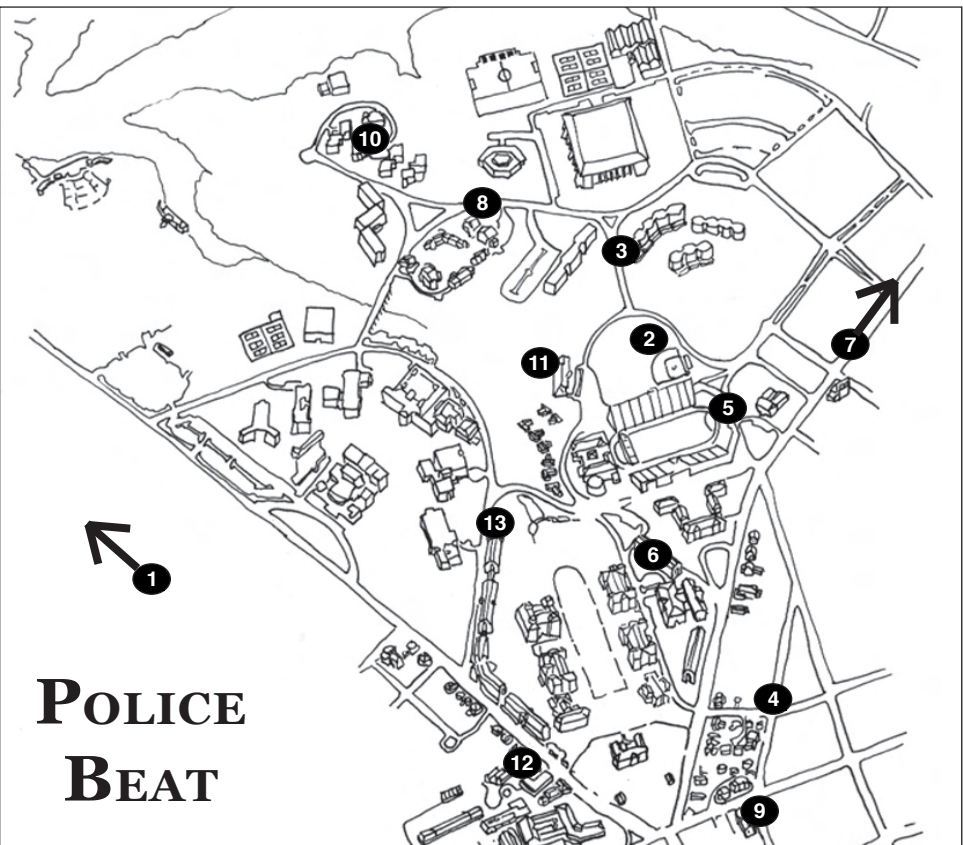
High 86°  
Low 62°

Sunday



High 85°  
Low 62°

Source: [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com)



POLICE  
BEAT

**Friday, Sept. 2** — A student reported the larceny of an iPod at the Ludwell Complex. Estimated value of the iPod was \$300. **1**

— A student reported an overturned golf cart on Gooch Drive. Officers reported no damage, although there was a reported gas leak. The vehicle was returned to catering services. **2**

**Saturday, Sept. 3** — A student was arrested for underage possession of alcohol and allegedly being drunk in public at the Fraternity Complex. **3**

— A noise complaint from a party was reported at 197 Armstead Avenue. A student was arrested for allegedly being drunk in public. **4**

— A student was referred to the administration for alleged underage possession of alcohol and allegedly being drunk in public on Alumni Drive. **5**

— A student was referred to the administration for allegedly being drunk in public at Old Dominion Hall. **6**

— The larceny of a bicycle was reported at Hughes Hall in the Dillard Complex. The estimated value of the bike was \$300. **7**

**Sunday, Sept. 4** — Damage to property was reported at the Commons construction site. A forklift hit a power transformer. The estimated damages were \$3,000. **8**

**Tuesday Sept. 6** — A female resident of Brown Hall reported possible identity theft after she noticed use of her social security number on her credit report. **9**

**Wednesday, Sept. 7** — A fire alarm was set off in Fauquier Hall when an individual discharged a fire extinguisher. The estimated clean-up cost for the fire extinguisher was \$20. **10**

— A catering services van was found in the woods behind the King Student Health Center. Officers said they believe an individual took the vehicle for a joy ride. There appear to have been no damages. **11**

— A female student reported harassing phone calls at Taliaferro Hall. **12**

**Thursday, Sept. 8** — A male student was referred to the administration for alleged underage possession of alcohol and allegedly being drunk in public at Landrum Hall. **13**

— compiled by michael j. schobel

STREET BEAT :

How have the increasing gas prices changed your habits?



Now that gas is so expensive, I feel better about accepting pumpkin spice lattes from friends who I drive

◆ Shawna Kettyle, senior



It’s made me think twice about asking people to come visit me.

◆ Katie Roundtree, freshman



I have a speedpass, son.

◆ Brennan Zubrick, sophomore



I haven’t driven in two years.

◆ Dan Souleles, sophomore

— photos and interviews by lizzy spencer



# Senate, Undergraduate Council discuss hurricane relief efforts



ANDY DESOTO • THE FLAT HAT  
Juniors SA Chief of Staff James Evans and SA President Ryan Scofield exchange notes at the Student Assembly meeting Tuesday night.

## Class of 2008 plans excursions to Go Kart Plus, VMI football game

By Charlotte Sabalis  
The Flat Hat

The Undergraduate Council met Tuesday in the Colony Room of the University Center to discuss the year’s class events, including a possible poker tournament, a go-kart trip and a T-shirt drive to benefit hurricane victims. Representatives of the Student Assembly and Executive Board were also present.

The Class of 2008 is still working on three projects discussed last week: the completion of their used book sale, an excursion to Go-Karts Plus and a trip to the Virginia Military Institute next weekend to support the Tribe football team. They also discussed a proposal to sell triathlon T-shirts and whether the other classes would like to join them in this project.

Class of 2007 President junior Jess Vance proposed donating a percentage of the proceeds from the Pat McGee Band concert to Project Relief for the victims of hurricane Katrina. She also said that there will be recycling at the Ludwell Apartments by next week and discussed the Class of 2007’s idea for a poker tournament in mid-October.

Class of 2006 president John Adams said delivery of the Green and Gold, an annual publication showcasing the pictures and interests of freshmen, has already started, with the exception of the hardcover editions. He also brought up the Class of 2006’s plan for BYOB tailgates at football games coming up this semester. Planning for the senior class gift is also in the works.

After individual class business was discussed, junior Sen. Greg Teich updated the council on the progress of T-shirts being produced to raise money for victims of hurricane Katrina. The first batch should be ready by the end of this week, she said.

Student Assembly Vice President junior Amanda Norris reported that by Sept. 16 there will be large blue recycling bins placed all over campus and that students will be able to recycle paper, which was not an option previously. See “RECYCLING,” page 1.

Junior Lydia Bailey, the new secretary of diversity for the SA, discussed the Cultural Festival taking place tomorrow. She said the festival was an event that would showcase diversity and that many different cultural groups on campus would be taking part. The event is co-sponsored by the University Center Activities Board and the SA.

The council also discussed how to mark the anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. Council members said they expected participation to dwindle as none of the classes currently attending the College were here in 2001. The council decided to continue the tradition of lining the Crim Dell walkway with candles.

“Even if there’s only one candle lit, it will raise awareness,” Class of 2008 President Nick Faulkner said.

The last order of business was to approve the amendments to the senate constitution, which was passed by the senate earlier this week. The council passed the amendments, and the meeting ended with the assembly of the Homecoming planning committees.



ANDY DESOTO • THE FLAT HAT  
SA President junior Ryan Scofield makes a point.

## SA defeats bill requiring senators to hold regular office hours

By Heather Keelon  
The Flat Hat

The Student Assembly Senate convened Tuesday evening to discuss bills presented on Hurricane Katrina Relief and debate issues regarding office hours for senate members.

Junior Sen. Greg Teich presented two bills aimed at aiding the victims of Katrina. The first proposed that T-shirts be sold at yesterday’s Pat McGee concert with all proceeds going toward alleviating some of the havoc wreaked by the recent hurricane. For more information, see “KATRINA RELIEF,” page 1.

Money for the first 500 T-shirts will be covered using the assembly’s off-campus account, accumulated from events the assembly sponsors such as the King and Queens’ Ball and Homecoming. If all 500 are sold, the total raised for Katrina relief through T-shirt sales will amount to approximately \$1,750.

Teich said that he would like to sell more T-shirts after the kick-off of the initial 500 but added that it is too early to tell whether or not such an endeavor would be feasible.

Teich’s T-shirt bill passed 13-1-0.

The second bill proposed a redirection of some of the ticket sales revenue toward the hurricane relief effort. The bill proposed that \$1 from every student ticket sold and \$3 from every community ticket sold would be donated to the relief effort.

“[The senate] really wanted it to be a consolidated effort,” Teich said regarding the two bills. “We know it’s in the news, but the news blitz tends to taper off after the first week, week and a half, and we wanted this to be in the limelight a lot longer. We hope to pick up right where the news leaves off.”

Also included in Tuesday night’s agenda was a bill that would make office hours for senate members mandatory. The Office Hours Bill would require senators to spend at least an hour per week in the Campus Center office.

“I don’t think it’s a waste of time to make ourselves available,” junior Sen. Royce McAllister, who strongly endorsed the proposal, said. He also said mandatory office hours would attract students with questions for the SA to the office.

Sophomore Sen. Joe Luppino-Esposito agreed.

“I see no problem whatsoever in sitting office hours,” Luppino-Esposito said. “It is actually our duty to do so. There needs to be a place where students can go to be heard or at least to ask a question.”

Senior Sen. Harrison Godfrey also pointed out that office hours could help the student body become better acquainted with their senators and allow senators to become better acquainted with the wide-ranging concerns within the student body.

The bill failed, however, due to a tie vote, 5-5-5. Luppino-Esposito called it “a resolution without a backbone.”

Although the majority of the senators said they agreed that the concept itself was a good idea, some senators said that they thought the proposal was too vague regarding the assignment of senators to the office. It stated that officers should plan on spending at least one hour a week at the Campus Center between Monday and Friday, but did not clarify whether there should be a set schedule in which individual officers could sign up to be in the office during a certain time period.

“As the bill was presented, it was only by sheer happenstance that one could find their senator in the office,” Godfrey said. He added that in order for students to meet with their senators, the hours have to be better publicized.

The bill also mentioned that failure to comply with office hours would be an impeachable offense; however, the conditions of impeachment were not specified.

In addition to the bill’s supposedly vague wording, some senators said they thought the Campus Center is an out-of-the-way location for many members of the student body, including SA members. As a result, many of the senators choose to hold meetings in other, more convenient places, such as the Daily Grind or the University Center.

Despite the failure of the bill, many at the meeting said they were optimistic about such a change in the system. An alternative with a more rigid structure could be presented in the future.

The senate also discussed reforms for public comment, reviewed signed and vetoed legislation and passed a Committee Alignment Bylaw.

## Gas

From page 1

area was \$3.08 according to the Automobile Association of America.

Student reaction to the rise in gas prices has been mixed, with some students ambivalent and others worried about the effect the increase will have on their budgets.

“As a person who lives on Old Campus, I only use my car two times a week,” senior Steve Urciolo said. “It would be a financial burden for those who live off-campus or drive regularly.”

Senior Katie Wallmeyer agreed with Urciolo and said that she does not drive her car often enough while at school for the rise in prices to significantly affect her.

“I am just glad that few of us on campus need to drive our cars every day,” Wallmeyer said. “We are very fortunate to live in a town where most of the daily necessities are convenient enough to be reached by foot. I have always made it a habit to leave my car in resident parking during the week and to only take it out on weekends when I need to travel further than campus.”

Many off-campus students, however, said that they have felt the effects of increased gas prices.

“It’s ridiculous,” junior Ksenia Ferrand said. “I live off-campus, and I’ve been walking. I need that money for when I drive home to New York.”

Senior Timothy Treem commutes from Chesapeake, Virginia, approximately 60 miles from campus.

“It now costs me \$140 a week to fill up my tank instead of \$70,” Treem said.

## Forum

From page 1

Students who graduate from community colleges with a grade point average of 3.6 or better and a “B” or better in English 111 and 112 will be guaranteed acceptance at the College.

For years the College has had an arrangement to accept students from Richard Bland College if they meet certain requirements, but the plan will expand that relationship to other community colleges in Virginia as well. According to Feiss, by the end of the six-year period the College will accept 60 to 75 students from community college each year.

Feiss said that an increase in community college students would not lower academic standards.

“[Virginia Community College system] transfers are almost indistinguishable from the ‘native’ students at graduation in terms of GPA and similar measures of academic performance,” Feiss said.

While the administration generally refers to the College as a “small university,” the draft uses the term “mid-sized university.”

“We are a small doctoral-granting research university, especially in the public realm, as compared to all other doctoral-granting institutions,” Feiss said. “However, in the universe of the colleges and universities as a whole, we are certainly not small, but more appropriately described as mid-sized.”

The College says that the Restructuring Act will help continue the College’s growth in academic quality and the reputation that it has gained in recent years.

“[The] College, beginning with its designation as a ‘Public Ivy’ nearly twenty years ago, has witnessed a remarkable growth in its national reputation such that it is now routinely considered among the top national universities in surveys of every kind,” the draft reads.

A draft of the six-year plan for meeting state ask can be found at <http://www.wm.edu/restructuring/draftplan.php>.

## Recycling

From page 1



JAKE REEDER • THE FLAT HAT  
Freshman Jennifer Dorrance has been collecting all of her recyclable materials in her room because she has been unable to dispose of them.

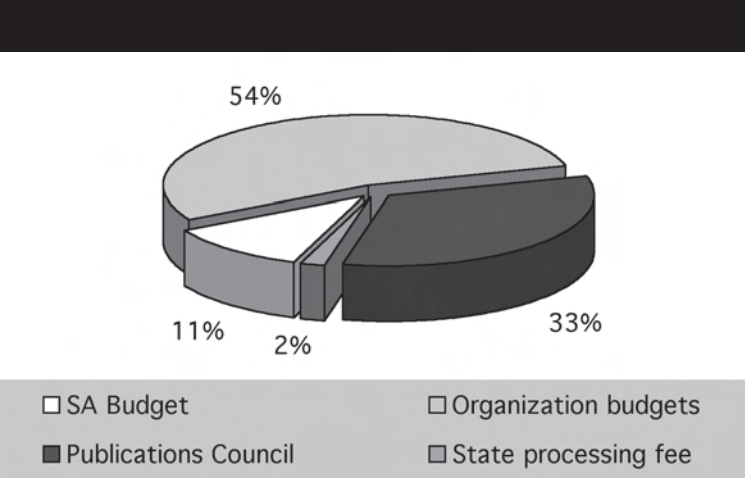
an environmental program that will help the campus in the long run, as well as help the student body to give something back.”

The SA is concentrating their efforts in getting the program off the ground by working with the Student Environmental Action Coalition and Facilities Management.

The SA is very excited about the program, Evans said.

“With recycling, we really engineered the whole thing, and it is not that often that we get a chance to do something so long-lasting for the College,” he said.

### Total student fee allocation





# Under the MICROSCOPE

## ◆ RESEARCH REVEALS HEALTH BENEFITS OF COFFEE IN MODERATION

By Jenna Eckardt  
The Flat Hat

New research has revealed that drinking coffee can improve one's health by providing valuable antioxidants. Coffee is popular among college students as a means of staying awake and sharpening focus, but there is controversy among scientists as to whether the drink's benefits outweigh its dangers.

A recent study on coffee conducted by Joe A. Vinson, a professor of chemistry at the University of Scranton in Pennsylvania, indicated that coffee is a rich source of antioxidants, substances that have disease-fighting properties and other healthy qualities. More people consume antioxidants from coffee than from any other food or beverage.

Vinson's team examined 100 foods to measure their antioxidant content, then used information from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to determine the portion of antioxidants each substance contributes to the average person's diet. While the average adult coffee drinker consumes 1,299 milligrams of antioxidants from coffee per day, other sources contribute far less. For example, the second largest source of antioxidants was tea, which contributes only 294 milligrams. Bananas, dry beans and corn are also among the top five sources of antioxidants.

Antioxidants are not yet completely understood, but they are believed to impact enzymes and genes.

"We think that antioxidants can be good for you in a number of ways," Vinson said.

Recent studies in the United States and Japan have led some scientists to believe that antioxidants play a role in reducing the risk of both cancer and Type 2 diabetes. Evidence suggests that they may also prevent heart disease, Parkinson's disease and gall bladder disease.

"People are getting the most antioxidants from beverages," Vinson said. This is despite the fact that many other foods, such as dates, grains, tomatoes and other fruits and vegetables have high levels of antioxidants.

Vinson said he was concerned by the tendency for people to get antioxidants from beverages. According to Vinson, it would be healthier if people increased their fruit and vegetable consumption instead.

"[Fruits and vegetables] are better for you from an overall nutritional point of view due to their higher

content of vitamins, minerals and fiber," Vinson said.

Other research has demonstrated the negative effects of coffee, and that extreme levels of consumption can be dangerous. Vinson's study discussed the more well-known side effects of coffee consumption, including a tendency to make drinkers jittery, restless and prone to insomnia.

Due to the high caffeine content, coffee drinkers can become addicted in a matter of days, and extreme addicts may experience withdrawal symptoms if they try to stop. Despite the antioxidants, coffee also inhibits the body's ability to absorb nutrients such as zinc, magnesium and iron. Many scientists suggest switching to decaffeinated coffee or tea for these reasons.

Some very serious health conditions have been attributed to coffee, but there is not enough evidence at this time to confirm these connections, which include increased heart rate and blood pressure, as well as arrhythmia or an abnormal heartbeat. According to one study cited by Vinson, drinking coffee may increase stress levels throughout the day. Coffee has even been linked to miscarriage, osteoporosis and arthritis.

The good news for students and other coffee lovers is that most researchers agree that a low amount of coffee, such as two cups a day, is not harmful. In one instance, the Nurses' Health Study found that moderate coffee consumption appears to have few, if any, adverse consequences. In moderation, the benefits of coffee may outweigh any harmful effects.



FILE PHOTO • THE FLAT HAT  
*New research has found that coffee is a more rich source of antioxidants than previously thought.*

# World Beat: Uzbekistan Protest inquiry rejected

By James Damon  
The Flat Hat

Nearly four months after government troops allegedly opened fire upon demonstrators in the small Uzbek city of Andijan, Uzbek President Islam Karminov continues to refuse calls by both the United States and the United Nations to allow an independent investigation into what the Economist dubbed in its Aug. 25 issue "the worst massacre of demonstrators since Tiananmen Square."

The May 13 protests came after a night of attacks by rebels on

State Department spokesman Sean McCormick said Sept. 2. Karminov denied the allegations. He has launched an internal investigation involving Uzbekistan's neighbor Russia, among other countries.

The soon-to-be-completed investigation has found that the attacks in the city of Andijan were "part of a thoroughly planned operation," a spokesman for the Uzbek General Prosecutor's office said.

Authorities in the investigation said that several Islamic groups, including the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, had been planning to seize power in the country

lations of human rights [which] continue to call into question ... the government's commitment to international standards."

Uzbekistan has long been an area of focus for human rights groups, especially after the military alliance with the United States during the war in Afghanistan further opened the country to Western eyes. Since July, several instances of abuse against journalists have been reported in the country. In particular, observers have been concerned about the beating of a pregnant journalist who was investigating party poli-

### SITUATION:

*Uzbekistan gained its independence after the fall of the Soviet Union 14 years ago. Since then, ex-Soviet Party member Islam Karminov has acted as president through referendums that extended his term, in addition to an internationally questioned election in 2000 in which Karminov received 92 percent of the vote. Under Karminov, party politics have limited the freedoms of the Uzbek people. Islam is the secular nation's most dominant religion, and has been a source of contention for the president and his party, who blame the religion for the unrest in his country. Many, however, believe that Islam is merely a way for many people to express their grievances with their government. In May, Uzbek troops fired on demonstrators protesting against alleged government attacks against Islamic militants.*

several jails in Andijan that had been holding Islamic militants. The protestors began gathering in the morning following the raids on the prisons. They were reportedly gathering peacefully to express public outcry against what they deemed government atrocities when government troops opened fire on the crowd of 10,000 using "what sounded like high caliber and automatic weapons," the May 13 edition of foxnews.com reported.

Following the attack, both the United States and the European Union called for an independent investigation into the alleged massacre.

"We've been very clear that the Uzbek government needs to let in an international team [and allow] an international investigation of what happened at Andijan," U.S.

through a series of attacks in May, the Russian News and Information Agency reported Sept. 5.

According to the May 23 issue of The New York Times, the death toll from the May attacks was placed near 150 by Karminov. Human rights groups, however, say the number could be as high as 1,000.

The discrepancy between these numbers may be a result of the heavy influence of party politics in the central Asian nation, which Karminov has ruled as acting president for the past 14 years. During this time, the United Nations' annual study about the 28 former soviet states, the Nations in Transit evaluation, accuses the Uzbek government of strictly controlling the media, a lack of judicial independence and "vio-

tics in the country, the Associated Press reported July 9.

This week, word of a Sept. 20 trial for those tied to the events in Andijan was given.

"All the truth will be expressed there," Karminov said over Uzbek Radio Sept. 1.

The Uzbek government was unclear about how many people have been arrested, who they are and how these arrests are connected to the trial. Human rights groups estimate that several hundred arrests were made following the May 13 violence, and questions were raised as to the condition of the accused.

Despite cries of outrage by representatives from both the United States and the European Union, no action has been taken against Karminov's regime.

# Do you hate that mistake on page 3?



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# The Flat Hat



STAFF EDITORIAL

Crime on campus? Nah ...

Every year for the past few years, The Flat Hat’s editorial board has discussed campus safety and, not surprisingly, the administration and the Campus Police have not gotten the message. Previous years’ concerns included insufficient lighting and solicitation in on-campus bathrooms, two issues that one might imagine would be priorities for the College. Despite the necessity of interior building security and blue light call boxes for general safety, we’ve seen little to no improvement in either.

Some members of our staff were surprised to learn about the plethora of incidents that have occurred fairly recently at the College, and we imagine many other students would be equally surprised. More shocking, however, was the fact that The Flat Hat received no information on many of those incidents, despite our weekly meeting at the Campus Police station and constant contact with the Office of University Relations. It is apparent that, right now, one can get more information from asking a dozen random people on campus than from the administration or the police.

The editorial board is aware of no fewer than seven criminal incidents involving campus safety, including ones in which unidentified persons have approached or solicited students in threatening and obscene ways. Besides the recent report of a catering van left in the woods behind the King Student Health Center, The Flat Hat is not aware of any announcements regarding those recent crimes. By law, the police are required to turn over a minimum amount of information about any alleged crime reported on campus, but the police are consistently tight-lipped, even when the students and media have a legal right to know what occurred. The students and staff deserve warnings of potentially dangerous individuals trespassing in or near College buildings, and yet, we haven’t heard a peep. University Relations is no help either; they’re too busy telling us how great the College is to keep us informed and safe.

Awareness of the frequency and type of criminal acts committed is critical to keeping the College safe for everyone, particularly when trying to convince students not to walk alone at night. The escort services and Campus Police can only do so much in the immediate time before and after an incident, so prevention has to extend to general knowledge well before any potential crimes occur. It appears that students are going to have to keep themselves safe, however; since we don’t know the details of typical crimes, students have to be concerned with their personal safety at all times and in all places, a situation that is likely to create constant fear bordering on paranoia. Why in the world do police and administrators believe that silence is a better way to deal with crime and campus safety?

The worst part is that most or all of these incidents could have been prevented by some simple additions to the safety systems around campus. More blue light call boxes could deter dangerous persons from approaching students at all, and more knowledge and vigilance by the police would keep hoodlums out of our bathrooms and residence halls.

But not only are certain parts of the administration failing to make the necessary changes, the parts intended to keep students abreast of such matters are not even reporting the failures in the first place. We feel safer already.

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Private greatness

Virginia’s universities are renegotiating their relationship with a state that provides them insufficient financial support. The University of Virginia receives eight percent of its budget from Richmond. The College receives less than 20 percent, down from over 70 percent in 1980. If present trends continue, both schools will eventually receive little or no state support.

Some hope that Virginia’s premier schools will slowly evolve into private institutions, free of onerous and counter-productive state regulation. Others still celebrate our public status, a status that supposedly distinguishes us in some fundamental way from private schools. The most articulate and thoughtful spokesperson for this point of view is our new president, who insists that we must be “public and great,” serving the “felt needs of the state.” College president Gene Nichol has even suggested that, if private, we would lose “the core of our meaning.”



Alan Meese

Statements like this suggest that our status as a public university distinguishes us in a fundamental and positive way from the likes of Dartmouth, Duke or Vanderbilt. What is it, though, that distinguishes the College and other public colleges from otherwise similar private schools? If there are meaningful distinctions, should we celebrate these differences?

The answer to the first question is not obvious. Most private universities are, like public schools, “not-for-profit.” Private and public schools compete in the same markets for students, faculty and donations. Schools offer the same degrees and majors, and their faculty strive to publish in the same journals. Spanish taught at Dartmouth is a lot like Spanish taught at the College.

Those who celebrate our “public” status might highlight two supposedly unique attributes of a “public” university. First there is “access,” that is, the assurance that students of modest means can attend a William and Mary or UVa. While access may be a laudable objective, states need not own and operate universities to achieve it. Instead, states could privatize all schools and provide vouchers to needy students. In the same way, states feed the poor without owning farms and grocery stores, relying upon vouchers in the form of food stamps instead.

Of course, Virginia has chosen a socialistic model — at least for now — owning and operating universities just as the British government once owned

(inefficient) steel mills. Like a central planner, the state sets the price (tuition) of these institutions, either by legislative fiat or indirectly through political appointees on the Boards of Visitors. Political pressure inevitably means that the College and other public colleges have a lower sticker price than their private peers. In-state students here pay annual tuition and fees of \$7,100, regardless of financial need, compared to \$32,000 at Dartmouth and just over \$29,000 at Duke. The result is a huge and unjustified subsidy for well-to-do students.

Despite their sticker prices, many private schools are committed to access. These schools have need-blind admissions and meet 100 percent of admittees’ financial need. Duke, for instance, spends \$50 million annually on need-based aid — one third of the College’s entire operating budget. By charging most students the “sticker price” and providing deep discounts to others, these schools target subsidies to those who need them.

Some argue that public universities and their faculty have a unique obligation to provide services to the larger community and the state. The source and justification for this obligation is not clear. Excellent teaching and research constitute service to the community, and resources devoted to public service are diverted from the academic program. In any event, many private schools are equally committed to public service. The University of Chicago Law School, private to the core, maintains a larger legal aid clinic than all such clinics at Virginia’s public law schools.

To be sure, there are some distinctions between public and private schools. Low sticker prices starve public schools of the resources necessary to realize their true potential. At these schools, access comes at a high price: low salaries, higher teaching loads and less time for research. States also micro-manage admissions policies, forcing schools to admit an inordinate number of in-state students. Each recession brings deep budget cuts and a state hiring freeze. There is nothing “great” about these unique attributes of public universities.

Most universities, public or private, seek to serve the public interest. Private schools do so unhampered by political interference of the sort that the College takes for granted. Absent such interference, the College could raise tuition, channel more aid to needy students and otherwise enhance the quality of its academic program. Now, wouldn’t *that* be great?

Alan J. Meese, '86, is the Ball Professor of Law at the College’s Marshall-Wythe School of Law. His views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.



NCAA finally confronting reality

Earlier this summer I read the article entitled “NCAA Asks College to Investigate Use of ‘Tribe’ Nickname,” posted on the College’s web site. The article stated that the College is one of over 30 institutions requested by the NCAA to submit a self-analysis regarding the appropriateness of its nickname. While William Walker, director of University Relations at the College, circumvented the topic by noting, among other things, that “a full 100 percent of our senior football players graduated last year,” it was Gertrude Minnie-Ha-Ha Custalow’s remarks that truly surprised me. The Mattaponi Tribe historian commented innocently, “It’s a Tribe. We root for those ... You know, sometimes this type of thing can get a little bit ridiculous.”

Ridiculous? Can it get as ridiculous as U.S. history? As a tribe historian, Custalow might have learned that in this country, no one has ever cheered for tribes; tragically, we massacred nearly all of them. Pardon the honesty, but U.S. culture has sadly done nothing more positive for our country’s native populations than equating them to animals.

This is precisely the continued reality exemplified by using native Americans — human beings — as collegiate mascots in athletics. As sports lingo employs such terminology as “drawing first blood,” “crushing” and “killing,” the words echo precisely the ferocious, unrestrained nature and behavior common — so we believe — to lower animals, not humans.

But Seminoles are humans. So are Utes, Braves, Choctaws and the Savages of Southeastern Oklahoma State University. And so are the beings who compose any tribe. If we are willing to use any group of persons as mascots, why not choose, for example, the Medieval



David Hildebrand

Christian Crusaders? It sounds outlandish, but they were an overpowering, intimidating, deadly group. Is that not the intent of a mascot, to unnerv the opponent? Yet, just as I would fear standing before such a battalion, so would I be ashamed to stand behind one, to be represented by one, if for no other reason than merely for being human in a culture in which we clearly distinguish between humans and animals should we refrain from using humans as mascots. But why, then, do we feel comfortable degrading some humans and not others?

One possible answer was put forth by T. K. Wetherell, Florida State University’s president. In an Aug. 5, 2005 article by the Associated Press, he was quoted as saying that the NCAA has left him “stunned at the complete lack of appreciation for cultural diversity.” I agree. It most certainly is a racial issue, and American Indians are the only demeaned group. In fact, the roots have grown so deeply that to call it a racial issue actually confuses some people. Wrongly and disgracefully mocking American Indians, their practices and their culture has long since been established as a collegiate norm, overlooked by many. Thankfully, the NCAA is finally confronting reality.

I support the NCAA for addressing this delicate issue. More importantly, I challenge other College alumni, students and faculty to begin an honest and open dialogue not about their wants and wishes or whether schools like the University of Illinois “Fighting Illini” are changing their names, but simply in searching for a new mascot, a non-offensive one, such as the William and Mary Hurricane, Blaze or Lightning. If the College intends to exhibit sincere “Tribe pride,” it will maturely return such long-overdue dignity and personhood to its peaceful neighbors, promptly and without future NCAA notification.

David R. Hildebrand graduated from the College in 2003. His views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.



Nate Burgess



Letters to the Editor

A tribute to exemplary student To the Editor:

I want to tell you about a fellow student whom most of you will never get to know. His name was Kelly Watt, and he was all set to join you this year at the College until his life was cut short by heat stroke a month ago. He planned to run track at the College, and I am certain that he would have worked for The Flat Hat because he loved to write and had his own column in a local paper here in Charlottesville, Va.

It is difficult to fully capture Kelly in words, but I want to try to give you a glimpse of him because I know that he would have been a good friend to a number of you. Kelly truly lived every minute of his life to the fullest; he did not waste a second. He gave his all in everything that he did, and he did not shy away from challenges; rather, he embraced them.

He loved to laugh, even, and especially, at himself. He was my “red” man because he could, and often did, turn red in two seconds. We (our class) managed to get him to turn red at least once during every class period, and it did not take much. He was funny, smart, caring, honest and humble about his many accomplishments.

Kelly was very much his own person. He did not go with the flow; he had his own flow. He saw each day as an opportunity and did not waste his time on unimportant things like looking or acting cool or being part of the “in” crowd, things that seem monumental to many high school students.

In the four years that I was privileged to be his teacher, I

never heard him complain about homework or all that he had to do or how stressed he was. He simply did his work and even did it cheerfully. He came to class with a smile on his face, and he gave everything his best shot.

Kelly lived well, and his life was an example to all who knew him. His life and his death have caused me to examine my own life and to desire to live it more thoughtfully, more determinedly, to do and give my best each day, the way that Kelly did as a matter of course.

I wish you all a wonderful year at the College. It is an outstanding school because you all make it so. I wish that all of you could have known Kelly; he was truly a gift to all who knew him. May you each be gifts to one another this year and let your lives shine the way that his did.

—Ruth Trice, '81

Colmunist off-base with remark about French ‘tabloid’ To the Editor:

I enjoyed Carl Siegmund’s column entitled “French press too eager to burn Armstrong in silly witch hunt” but couldn’t help but feel that he was at times getting rather confused between spin and fact.

His statement that L’Equipe is a tabloid is completely untrue and part of Armstrong’s attempt to claim they have it out for him. The columnist could be considered correct if he were referring to the size of the newspaper (which is in the traditional tabloid size), but he would then have to classify the respectable Le Monde as a tabloid, too.

—Mark Boydell, University of Stirling, Scotland



Nate Burgess

A fine welcome to the College

It seems to me the older you become, the better your senses are at judging the place you occupy. Not only the recognition of good and bad situations, because we all know that such knowledge is easily disregarded in college, but of the actual physical place in which you temporarily come to live.

Being a government brat, I have come to perfect the act of acclimating. The way a place moves, the rules, the restrictions, how enforced they are, the dress codes and socially-accepted actions, the approachability of community members and leaders, the activeness of the community — all are things that guide and build atmosphere.

Having lived in first- and third-world countries, cities and suburbs and attended private and public schools, it has been more than a pleasant surprise to spend the past few weeks as a student at the College. To all the freshman students who have never experienced college before, appreciate what you’ve

stumbled upon here at this school. As a transfer you hope for the best; you’ve up and left once before and in most cases would like to avoid repeating the experience of another orientation week and the re-learning of a campus. In some cases though, the act of transferring may prove the best decision a college student can make.

While the starting over can be tedious and demanding, it is an overwhelming feeling when, once a bit settled in, you finally do feel at home. Of all the transfers I’ve talked to, even though there are a handful of complaints and comparisons to “my last school,” most seem satisfied that they have made the right decision. Maybe having gone through the process before eases the transition for us, but most of us truly gave up a whole life to come here. We’ve given up the proximity of friends, the comfort of knowing professors and the knowledge of where the best food and the local night life surrounding our last school.

Yet the College, in its strong community, supportive staff and constantly available professors, really opens its arms to us transfers; it attempts and succeeds in compensating for those things left behind.

The adjustment process as a new student at the College seems to happen so quickly. Whether this is due to the friendly students, beautiful campus or the consolidation of these things in the general community is debatable. Yet, either way, the College proves to be a success in areas other than academia. It welcomes and encourages students in their academic as well as social endeavors. It is a successful balance of old and new, traditional and modern, creative and refined. It is a place I’m sure many students are saddened to leave, and anticipate coming home to.

I don’t know where we will all be at the end of this year, settled and satisfied or perhaps moving on again. Either way, this has been one of the best moves I have experienced, and I feel it’s safe to say that my experiences here will be memorable, the relationships I make long-lasting and the things I learn will take me further than I could have hoped. Congratulations to those who continue to foster and build the College. I look forward to my future here.

Ashley Braun is a sophomore at the College. Her views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.



Ashley Braun

Covering your bases

In last week’s “Behind Closed Doors,” Kate Pengaman recently had some trouble regarding the use of the infamous “base system.”



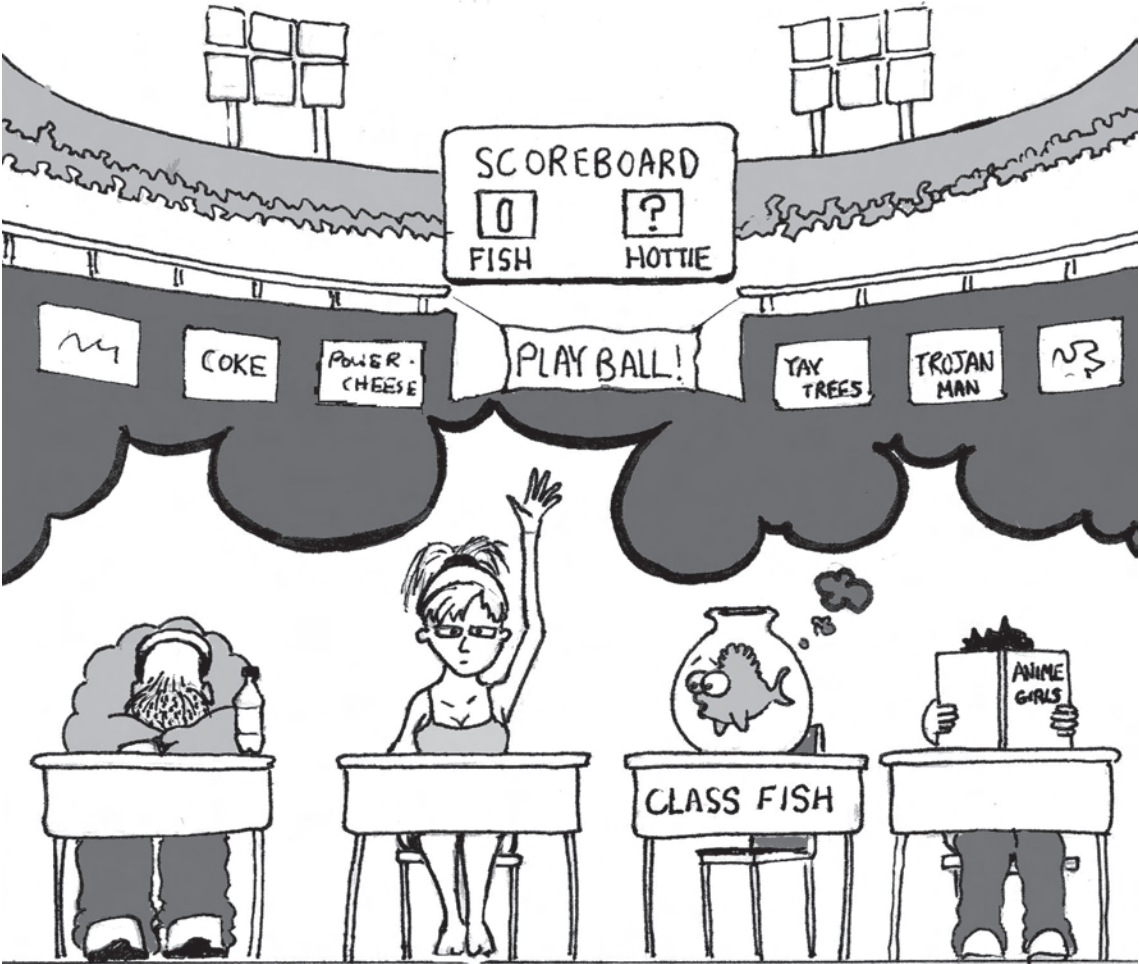
Mike Johnson

The reason for her confusion lies in the very center of the sprawling morass of innuendo that we know as “bases.” I hope to clear

up some of this confusion right now once and for all. In the United States’ quest to hide meaning behind euphemism, we’ve come up with some marvelous devices to define any point in a relationship. And they all have to do with baseball. The “base” system, as it is known, relies on the belief that, as there are four major points of hesitation in baseball, there too are four instances of the same in the physical aspect of dating. What these four things are, though, is up for debate. In the fourth grade, the base system can be explained in terms of holding hands, kissing, French kissing and making out. Simply put, few are having sex in the fourth grade

and nirvana is invariably reached somewhere in the back of the esophagus. This is not questioned. In the ninth grade, the system begins to encompass the full range of bodily functions, as the fourth grade base system is lumped into first base, and feeling, fingering and fucking come into play. Now, this system is very useful simply for the mnemonic ease of remembering “The Four F’s,” with first base being just called “French.” These “F’s” are simple to recall and spout out at will, but even this seemingly perfect system has one glaring flaw. Unfortunately, in strictly adhering to the rules of baseball, the so-called “third-and-a-half base” of fellatio is left out. Now, were baseball perfect and were there five bases on a baseball field, this fifth “F” could be added in as fourth base, and we would have no problems. However, the clunky-ness of this method simply screamed out for a more efficient categorization filing. By the beginning of college, the truly complex mind requires a streamlined, classic approach to the bases system. This means exactly four bases and exactly four easy to remember steps. The quota set therein was achieved by the following bases system, which




I now proffer, which details everything smoothly and clearly: things you do with your lips, things you do with your hands, things you do with your mouth and things you do with your penis (or vagina). Shortened from this fantastic, repetitive, easy-on-the-memory list we get: lips, hands, mouths and penii. In spite of the plural penis, however, it is important to note that this system was abbreviated as such only with the intention of ease of memorization, and in no way requires multiple penii to function correctly at the fourth base. Nothing could be simpler than the truth, which we don’t use because “I fucked her”, sounds like a hollow accomplishment compared to “I scored a home run.” It is my hope that we will all be able to communicate this achievement now with our friends in the most succinctly clear way possible via the base system outlined above. Thank you, Ms. Pengaman, for bringing this issue to light. Speaking for the community, we literally couldn’t “do it” without you. Mike Johnson is a freshman at the College. His views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.



Nate Burgess

Ahh, the power of

# The Flat Hat



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She's been both an OA and RA and might have given you the honor pledge.  
See THAT GIRL, page 9.

# Organizations come together in ‘Mosaic’

By MAX FISHER  
FLAT HAT ASST. VARIETY EDITOR

The Student Assembly will be taking over the Sunken Gardens for most of tomorrow for the College’s new cultural event, Mosaic. The SA will have the help of 24 various student organizations, including the University Center Activities Board, in putting on what looks to be one of the largest student-hosted events in recent memory.

Mosaic will begin like any well-planned event — with a whole lot of noise. The celebration kicks off at 3 p.m. with an African Drum Call sure to rouse the interest of every student, tourist and local retiree within earshot. From then until the closing at 8 p.m., culturally diverse music and dance groups will perform on a stage in the Gardens. These range from an Appalachian music ensemble to klezmer band “Bagels and Fraylox.” Food tastings will be available around dinner time, so bring your chop sticks. All involved student diversity groups will have booths available to answer questions and recruit new members.

Despite the extensive involvement from almost every student group on campus, this conglomeration of culture is largely the brain child of junior Lydia Bailey. A major proponent of diversity and multiculturalism around campus, Bailey has guided Mosaic from the drawing board to the final setup.

“[The goals of Mosaic are] advocating for diverse programs and encouraging a diverse set of individuals to become more involved in Student Assembly,” Bailey said.

Her personal hope for Mosaic, however, she said is much more ambitious: to “make it an annual ‘kick-off the year’ event,” geared primarily towards freshmen.

Bailey’s other big ambition for Mosaic, “getting students to learn about how our campus is growing and interacting with a variety of students,” seems to have already been fulfilled simply by planning the event.

“I think it’s a great way to show that this is a diverse campus despite being such a small school,” senior Eric Knapp said.

Because, according to Bailey, Mosaic is based on “a similar program . . . that slipped through the cracks and was not carried on,” pressure is high to make this weekend a success.

Mosaic began with the SA’s department of diversity initiative, a focus on expanding student interest and awareness in diversity and diversity groups. The secretary for that initiative, junior Michael Faithful, said that Mosaic was “one of the main projects we wanted to do” from the beginning.

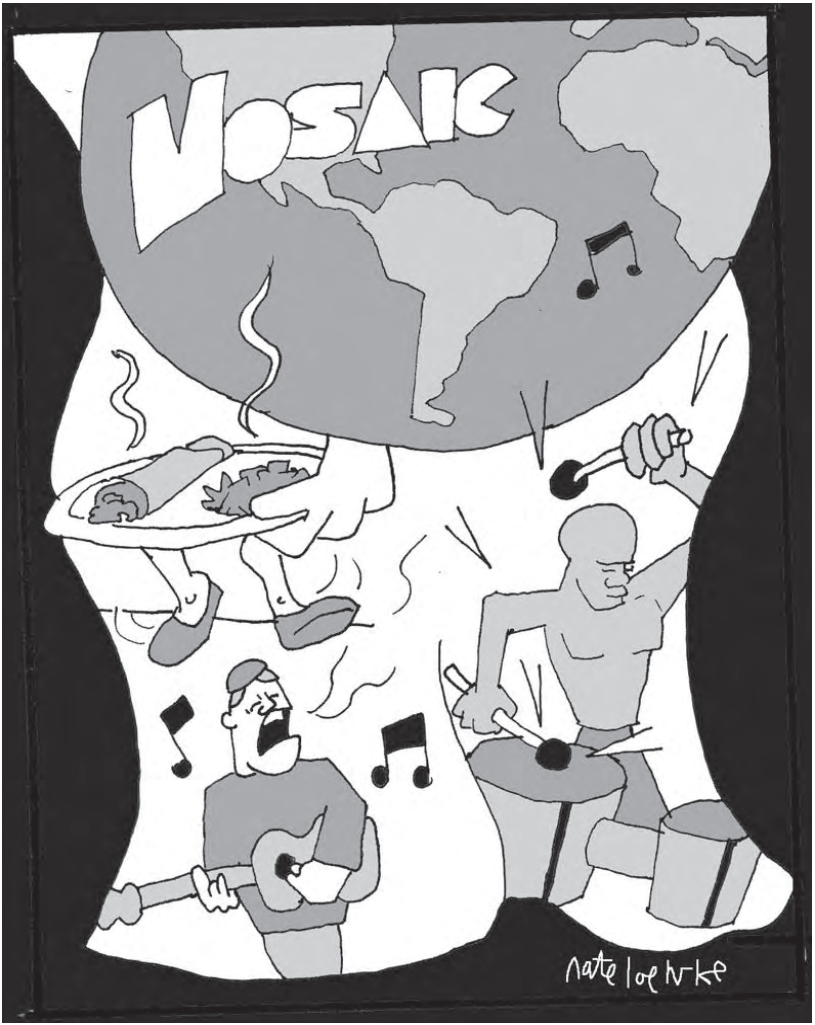
As a collection of many diverse students and a variety of advocacy groups in that most central of campus locations, Faithful said that Mosaic fulfills “our comprehensive plan . . . to increase minority visibility with a major campus event and introduce freshmen to cultural groups.”

These groups include everything from the South Asian Student Association to the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance to the Muslim Student Organization and everything in between. Only a handful will be presenting on the main stage, but all groups will have a booth open with food, information pamphlets or other culturally-significant items.

The name for Mosaic comes from the art technique of the same name that uses a composite of colors and shapes to form an image. Bailey draws the analogy between Mosaic and its namesake when she said she wants the event to be “one day where all organizations could come together and showcase pieces of their culture . . . so that everyone can see how colorful and diverse our campus can be.”

While the event is geared primarily toward freshmen, Bailey said that all are welcome to come and peruse the booths, taste the food and enjoy the presentations. Bailey said great strides have been made to establish “a friendly and welcoming atmosphere where students will be free to explore and question other cultures.”

My number one goal is for everyone to have a wonderful time,” she added.



## Eclectic band rocks with angst, positive message



COURTESY PHOTO • MYSPACE.COM/SOULSOMATIC

By JEFF DOOLEY  
THE FLAT HAT

Another Friday is upon us here at the College, and that could mean only one thing: it’s time, once again, for Fridays @ 5, the UCAB-run concert series taking place every Friday evening at the University Center.

A great opportunity to wind down after a long week of classes, the concert series hit the ground running last week with a performance by the reggae band Soldiers of Jah Army. Last week’s show, aided by beautiful weather, “could not have gone more perfectly,” Sam Rogers, chair of music productions for UCAB, said. Rogers went on to say that the concert series’ goal is “to provide an eclectic mix of live entertainment.”

Entering into the eclectic mix is this week’s artist, Sole Somatic, a five-piece band hailing from Virginia Beach, Va. Rogers described them as a band with “really high energy and a positive message.” Rogers also said that if you are a fan of The Roots, Linkin Park or 311, then you will probably like Sole Somatic as well.

The band’s five members are David Herring on guitar, Brandon on drums, Bobby on bass, JD on the

turntables and Beatnik on the vocals. Sole Somatic boasts a distinct musical style, one they like to describe as “hip-hop fusion.”

“We take various types of music, such as rock, jazz, R&B, funk, and then fuse hip-hop style and lyrics into it. It’s a very unique sound, probably unlike anything you’ve heard before,” Herring said.

This unique sound is immediately evident on “Round One,” the first track on the band’s self-titled EP. The track, which Rogers said is one that “perfectly exemplifies the band’s ability to go from rock to rap to reggae so fluidly,” opens with a rock riff on the electric guitar, and is quickly joined by turntables and rapping vocals. Throughout the song, different parts alternate playing, with guitar parts and drumming that could commonly be found in rock or funk songs mixed in with more rapping and turntables.

The backbone of the band’s sound is the rhythm section. The drum beats range from those typical of hip-hop tracks to more traditional rock or funk beats.

On top of the rhythm section is the guitar. The guitar parts vary more than any other aspect of the band’s sound, ranging from hard rock power chords

See **ANGST** + page 9

## Korean Trio brings class, style

By ERICA PARKER  
THE FLAT HAT

Tonight marks the beginning of a year full of stimulating presentations brought to campus as part of the Office of Student Activities’ Lively Arts Series. The Ahn Trio, a classical instrumentalist group, will perform in Phi Beta Kappa hall at 8 p.m. on Friday. Originally from Seoul, South Korea, the Ahn Trio will come to the College as part of their fall 2005 tour of the United States.

The Ahn Trio is comprised of twins, Maria and

Lucia, and their younger sister Angella. Much has been said of their familial bond and its contribution to their music. The Frankfurter Rundschau, a German newspaper, notes the “sisterly harmony . . . in their music-making . . . , maintained by means of glances, signs and small gestures.”

“[T]ogether they coax a collective, dynamically flexible sound that gets us thinking about the bonding power of family,” The Los Angeles Times wrote.

See **KOREAN** + page 8



COURTESY PHOTO • WWW.AHNTRIO.COM

## Night abroad turned sour by awkward, distinct guffaw

### CONFUSION CORNER



Lauren Bell

I wrote this column over the summer when I was studying in Cambridge, England. At least, I was on a study abroad program. Saying I was studying might be stretching it a little. Now you probably expect me to regale you with some great wisdom I acquired overseas. Perhaps the British have told me the secret to happiness (I think it starts with a “G” and ends with an “uinness”). Maybe I have some very deep insights into the way foreign cultures react to one another. Maybe I have a really good fish and chips recipe. Or maybe, just maybe, I am using this column for my own personal griping purposes. Anyway, the following is a memorable anecdote from abroad.

My room at Christ’s College overlooks a small courtyard. Most of the students here live in either my building or the building on the opposite side of the yard, so the pathway between the two is a popular meeting place.

I was lying in bed about ten minutes ago,

trying to sleep off my second night here (what? I was in England). I had the window open to catch the cool (read: frigid) English breeze. Some students were hanging around outside, talking and laughing. Because I had spent the better part of my evening trying to learn about English culture (read: I was pub-hopping), I was prepared to ignore the noise and slide into a deep, sweet Guinness-addled sleep — until the laugh started.

Most people sound pretty weird when they laugh. I have been made fun of many times for my high-pitched squeals, but this laugh — *the laugh* — was so freaking bizarre and so far beyond anything I had ever heard, I just had to jump out of bed and write about it.

I don’t know who owns the laugh, but I know they have it all wrong. This laugh wasn’t just one crazy bubbling over of mirth and silliness that forces uncontrollable sound from a body. This laugh wasn’t weird simply

in tone or pitch. This laugh had distinct syllables. I could easily spell this laugh: “ha ha ha . . . ha ha . . . ha.” It doesn’t look all that crazy on paper; after all, writers often indicate laughter with a series of “has,” but who laughs so it makes six distinct “has?” with noticeable and even spaces in between? Does this person not understand what he is laughing about? Does this person not know joy? Does this person not know that only evil robots in movies laugh like that?

Uniformity is not my goal in calling out the crazy laughter. We all love to make fun of that kid who has a weird laugh. We’re not being mean; it’s just fun. When I hear a laugh that sounds like a dying bullfrog mated with a cow underwater, it just fills my little heart with glee. When you’re in class, particularly if it’s one of those “science for English majors” classes, and the professor makes a terrible science joke, all you need is

for that solitary goofy laugh to float out over the dumbstruck class. It settles in awkward silence for a few minutes, echoing in the cold and sterile lab, but once you let it go and learn to appreciate it, I promise you, class gets 87 times more enjoyable. I need bizarre laughs in my life. All I’m asking for is a bit of humanity.

Because I didn’t pay attention in baby bio, I can’t really tell you if human beings are the only creatures who laugh, but I’m pretty sure they’re the only ones with memorable chortles, giggles and guffaws. Your laugh is like your fingerprint — everyone’s is unique. Someone who laughs like an evil robot only leaves a smooth and cold impression. If I tell a joke, I don’t want to hear the programmed response of some Disney-style animatronic gone awry — I want some genuine snorts of

See **GUFFAW** + page 8



## Variety Calendar

### Highlights of the week

— compiled by max fisher

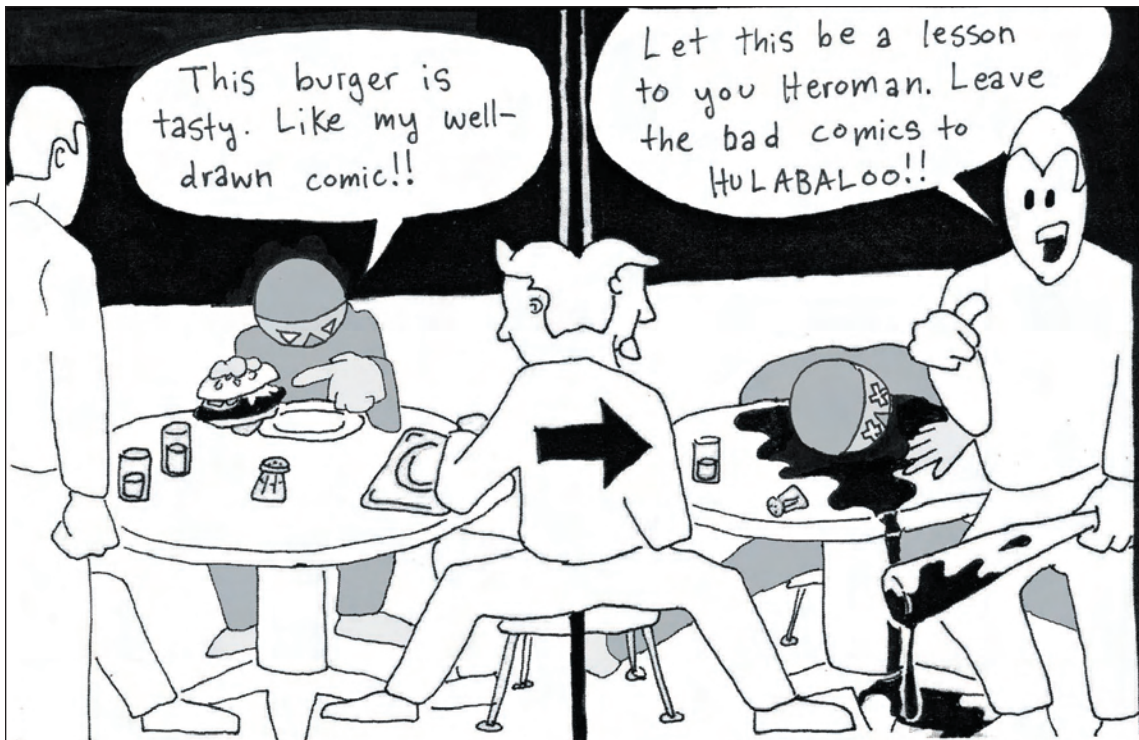
### Free comedy

♦ Russian-born comedian Daniel Kinno is bringing his campus tour to Lodge One this Friday at 9 p.m. The 21-year old has been rapidly garnering national attention for his observational style of humor and quick wit. Be sure to make it down early as this event is free and will fill up very quickly.

To have an event printed in the Variety Calendar, call x3281 before 5 p.m. Tuesday.

### Jazz-funk show

♦ Legendary jazz guitarist Melvin Sparks is playing in Virginia Beach tomorrow. Sparks is credited with inventing a uniquely soulful brand of funk-jazz later adopted by such jazz heroes as Grover Washington and Grant Green. His guitar work can be heard on his own albums or on the biggest hits of Lou Donaldson, Curtis Mayfield and James Brown. He will perform with his trio, featuring Jerry Z on organ and Justin Tomsovic on drums. At 30 years and Donaldson's solo catalogue, the native New Yorker will be at the Jewish Mother, one of Virginia Beach's best clubs. The Mother is located on 31st and Pacific Avenue and is known for outstanding food as well as a great beer and wine selection. So make sure you get there early and don't forget to try out the deli-style sandwiches. Don't wait until afterwards to eat, as the kitchen closes before the show is over.



Hulabaloo

By Nate Loerhke

## Horoscopes

**Virgo:** Aug. 23 - Sept. 22



You've done the thing guaranteed to make all year awkward: hooked up with a hallmate. To survive, you must either marry or leave the College forever.

**Libra:** Sept. 23 - Oct. 22



Between your dorm being evacuated and your mail getting opened, Sam Sadler might trying to tell you that the College just doesn't like you anymore.

**Scorpio:** Oct. 23 - Nov. 21



Now that your antics have made you the Al Capone of Williamsburg, it may be time to avoid weary security officers by doing your raging off-campus.

**Sagittarius:** Nov. 22 - Dec. 21



You will be slighted yet again by an administrator who doesn't care about your problems. This time, fight back. Don't let The Man keep you down.

**Capricorn:** Dec. 22 - Jan. 19



You might think your offensive humor is hilarious, but it's actually just tasteless. Inappropriate jokes are great on Family Guy and childish in real life.

**Aquarius:** Jan. 20 - Feb. 18



You're always full of talk about doing the right thing and all that noise, now it's time for some action: do your part to help the NoLA hurricane victims.

**Pisces:** Feb. 19 - March 20



It's great that you love to wake up for that 8 a.m. by blasting "Eye of the Tiger" every morning, but please turn the volume down from 11. Survivor sucks, anyway.

**Aries:** March 21 - April 19



We're sorry, but you need to learn how to not drive like an asshole. This is Williamsburg, not lower Manhattan, Speed Racer.

**Taurus:** April 20 - May 20



There's no doubt that herpes jokes are funny, but you should stop making so many before you tempt fate: irony is much funnier.

**Gemini:** May 21 - June 21



Tired of people asking you to speak up all the time and getting ignored during class discussion? Let us spell it out for you: you mumble. It's obnoxious.

**Cancer:** June 22 - July 22



Today your horoscope has been replaced by a traditional Buddhist mantra. Memorize and repeat it to yourself often: "the liver is evil and must be punished."

**Leo:** July 23 - Aug. 22



Bummed about getting dumped? Bounce back by hooking up with the first person you see, even if they are unattractive and less desirable than a double in Dillard.

..... compiled by max fisher .....

## KOREAN

FROM PAGE 7

According to their website, [www.ahntrio.com](http://www.ahntrio.com), all three sisters "played the piano as soon as they could reach the keys," and their first two CDs, "Paris Rio" and "Dvorak: Piano Trios," consisted solely of piano pieces. Currently, however, Lucia focuses on the piano, Angella plays the violin and Maria plays cello. Their latest CDs, "Ahn-Plugged" and "Groovebox," include pieces by diverse composers, from the legendary Leonard Bernstein to the contemporary David Bowie. According to Angella Ahn, the Trio's newfound eclecticism is intended to "add people to our audiences ... who normally would not go to classical concerts."

The Trio made their public debut on Korean

television in 1979, and soon afterward enrolled at the prestigious Juilliard School. Their music has been showered with critical acclaim. "Dvorak: Piano Trios" was honored with the ECHO award, Germany's version of the Grammy. In the United States, the Ahn Trio's first public recognition came after they were featured as a 1987 TIME magazine cover story. Ever since, they have been regarded as one of the world's premier chamber ensembles. Everywhere they go, from Asia to Europe to South America, they are in high demand.

Tickets can be purchased today from the Office of Student Activities, located in room 203 of the Campus Center. They will also be available at PBK starting at 7 p.m. at the door. Tickets are \$15 for students and \$25 for the public. The Ahn Trio will be the first of six groups that will perform as part of the Lively Arts Series.

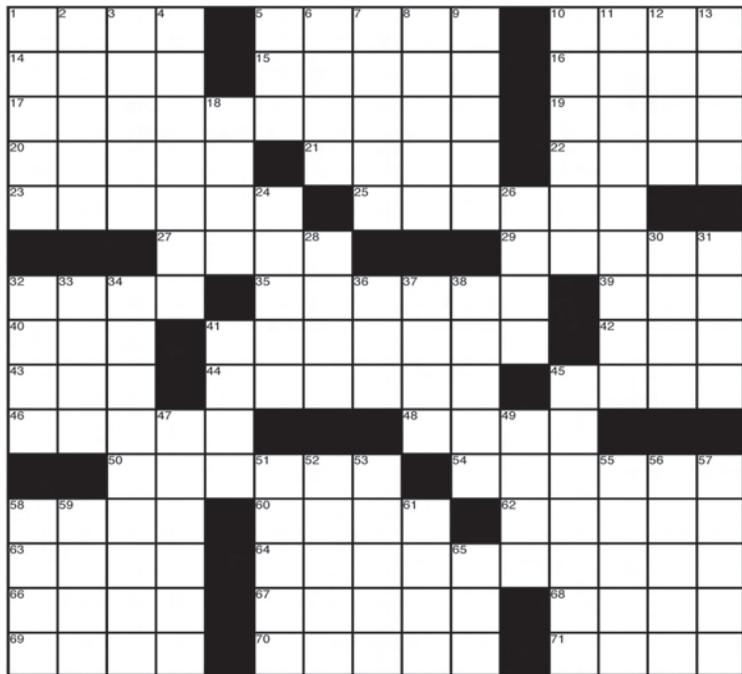
## Crossword Puzzle

### ACROSS

- Family head
- Taken \_\_\_\_ (surprised)
- 50's-60's singer \_\_\_\_ Domino
- Whiff
- Winner of 1968 and 1972
- Help in a holdup
- Drill instructor's 41-Across
- Folk stories
- TV's Kovacs
- A portion
- Sugar unit
- Item on a high school jacket
- Princeton's Tiger, e.g.
- Ireland, poetically
- More than bad
- Blacken
- Fuddy-duddy
- Bibliographical suffix
- Derby, for one
- See 17- and 64-Across, and 11- and 34-Down
- Op. \_\_\_\_
- "Wherefore \_\_\_\_ thou Romeo?"
- Circa
- Wine and dine
- Freshmen, usually
- New money on the Continent
- "\_\_\_\_, My God, to Thee"
- Like bad bruises
- Cracker spread
- Lapsed
- Base runner's achievement
- Ardent
- Drill instructor's 41-Across
- It may be reflecting
- Bring out
- What's more
- Diarist Frank
- Extend, as a subscription
- Vegas sign

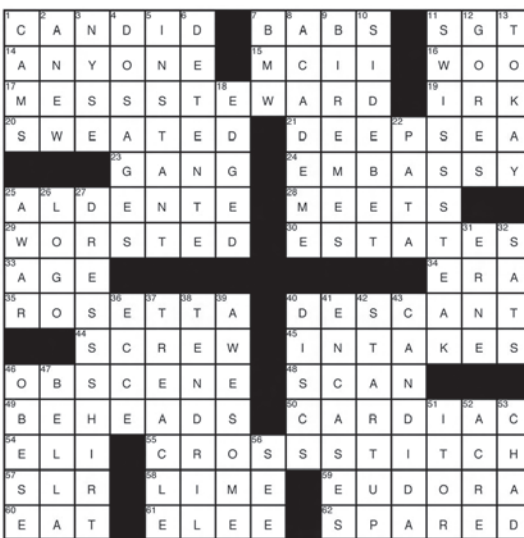
### DOWN

- Architect's construction
- Like a lot
- \_\_\_\_ Rushmore
- Judge
- Actress Sue \_\_\_\_ Langdon
- Bridle parts
- It's a given
- Pause sign
- Croucher's sore spots
- Unused, as a field
- Drill instructor's 41-Across
- School session
- Dance lesson
- Satyr's stare
- Hardship
- Jack or 10
- Nautilus captain
- The "U" in I.C.U.
- Like the White Rabbit
- Tête-à-tête
- Aesop's also-ran
- Drill instructor's 41-Across
- Down Under bird
- Western writer Grey
- Become, at last
- José's house
- Computer language



Source: The New York Times

### Last week's solution



Heroman

By Thomas Baumgardner



Knowing Jack

By Mika Shannon

## GUFFAW

FROM PAGE 7

appreciation.

So I have some advice for you, crazy laughing kid outside my window: loosen up, have some more pints, laugh like you really

want to laugh and not the way you heard it at Epcot and get the hell out from under my window at one in the morning. Jerk.

Lauren Bell is a Confusion Corner columnist for The Flat Hat. She was probably wasted out of her mind when she wrote this column.

### We want writers.

Contact the Variety section at [hfvrt@wm.edu](mailto:hfvrt@wm.edu) for more information.





# That Girl: Natalie Romanoff

By Tegan Neustatter  
Flat Hat Staff Writer

For someone who calls herself awkward and clumsy, Natalie Romanoff seems to have her list of activities pretty well coordinated. This kinesiology major was a four-time OA, an RA, a member of the Honor Council and a member of Kappa Alpha Theta. Despite her massive amount of extra-curricular activities, this sorority girl seems pretty laid-back. This week Natalie shares with us her experiences with freshmen, laying down the law and her pick of the dangers of rushing for a sorority.

**So you're a kinesiology major. How did you decide on that major, and what are your plans for it in the future?**

When I came in [as a freshman], I wanted to do the pre-med/physical therapy track, but after taking a few chemistry courses, I decided I never wanted to do that again. I really got involved with motor control and motor learning, and I want to work with special-ed kids.

**Well, you're ready for anything after being an OA for four years and an RA in Yates Hall last year.**

This year I was an OA for a boy's hall in Taliaferro, and I think it's the most fun I've had during orientation all four years. My kids were awesome. They were definitely the coolest kids.

**How was your OA experience compared to your RA experience?**

They're both a different kind of experience. As an RA you have to set rules for the whole hall, whereas as an OA you definitely get to take a more fun role. I think being an RA made me a better OA because I did the administrative side, and then I got to do the fun, everybody-go-out-and-have-a-great-time side.

**You're also involved in the Honor Council. How'd you get into that?**

I remember there being an honor pledge my freshman year, and then I kind of slacked off the rest of freshman year and didn't do anything. During sophomore year I thought it would be cool to hold up the tradition [of the pledge] and see what [Honor Council] was all about, so I ran and I won. I really like it; the kids on the council are so cool. It seems like a crappy job, but I like working with everyone to preserve the standards of the College.

**So what are your responsibilities on the Honor Council? Just laying down the law?**

Yeah, it's kind of laying down the law, but my job is to teach people about plagiarism. For example, what it's like plagiarizing in the real world versus what it's like plagiarizing in college.

**What would happen if a friend of yours got put before the Honor Council? Would you be allowed to participate in the decision?**

Well, whenever we know somebody in any way, shape or form, we don't take the case. There's 24 of us on the council, so it's not hard to find someone else. You just hope for the best and tell them to tell the truth.

**And you're also in Student Advancement Association. What don't you do? What does the SAA involve?**

It's actually really cool. It's not part of SAC (the Student Alumni Council), but we work with alumni to try to raise funds for the College. We do a lot of fundraisers and go to a lot of meetings. We send student reps out asking for money. Right now we're getting prepared for Homecoming.

**I noticed that you're in Sigma Tau. I looked under it up under the Student Organizations, but it doesn't exist. What is this group?**

Sig Tau is a group of all my best girlfriends who graduated last year. We wanted to be able to say E-T, like "E.T. phone home," so we made a fake frat. It's what we call ourselves.

**But you're in a real sorority, Kappa Alpha Theta. Since it's rush time, tell me, what do you look for in a sister?**

I really like girls who are fun to hang out with and are really comfortable with themselves. I'm not looking for someone who is a crazy partier. I'm just looking for someone to chill with and do fun things with.

**What would be the worst thing that could happen during rush: a massive stain on your dress, accidentally insulting a sister that you were talking to or falling flat on your face when you are being introduced at a house?**

I personally think that the stain and tripping would be hilarious, but I could never actually insult someone. I think that would be terrible. If you could bring it around and make it funny, it would be OK.

# Mi sex column es su column

What would it take to add a much-needed touch of validity to this column? Loyal continuation of the status quo? A radical regime change? Pictures?

Don't get excited about the pictures option. That won't happen at this school. For now we'll have to leave the student nudie mags to places like Vassar and Swarthmore and the College of the North, Harvard. So we're left with written material for this column. That doesn't mean it can't be interesting.

Let me set some context.

I myself subscribe to a rigidly conservative and Victorian set of principles and beliefs, traditions utterly forgotten among our generation, but nonetheless correct. No sex before marriage. "Dating" (syn.: going out, seeing someone) itself is nothing more than scheduling and spending social time with a person. Dating carries no connotation of commitment. In fact, it actually denotes playing the field. A lady dates as many gentlemen as she fancies, and a gentleman does the same with ladies, until two such people decide after careful and studied deliberation that they prefer each other's company exclusively and want to make official that exclusivity with a symbol thereof.

That symbol is the engagement ring. Once the lady wears the ring upon her hand, she is finally entitled to put it to good use by holding the hand of her betrothed. Nothing more. Restraint carries the day. This engagement eventually ends with the start of the life sentence known as marriage, the only consolation for which is the long-awaited right to consummate the relationship with a night of hopelessly confused, awkward sex, punctuated occasionally with "is that supposed to happen?" From that night on, the two have sex with each other and only each other for the rest of their uninformed but well-behaved lives. That is the ideal upon which I have built this defining set of principles.

However, penchant for violating those principles whenever it suits me is perhaps what best characterizes me. It makes life so much more interesting.

That tension between belief and action, word and deed, is one of the myriad subtleties I can discern, pluck from among the truths of human sexuality and explicate with an artfully engaging and lucid style in this column.

I can do that. I can do anything I want. What I

Blake Smith



want, though, is to open this up to you, the readers. I want to know what you would like to read, what will interest you enough that you'd take this column seriously.

So what will it be? Insightful discussion on the social and personal facets of sexuality, studded with sparkling wit and erudite historical and cultural references?

Vain but fun snippets of gossip about where who did whom in what position for how long, just how big both (or all three or more) were and how you can join in the next time?

Or — my favorite idea — I could take questions from readers (under strictest confidentiality) about anything sexual and do my best to answer them. For anatomical and gross mechanical questions, I'm your man (I was reading my mother's anatomy books before Dr. Seuss).

For more complex physiological and health inquiries, I would research and seek professional consultation (so you could stay anonymous and make me your proxy for those truly embarrassing sexual questions). For the most complex questions of all, the relationship kind, I would draw on the experience and testimony of real people in real relationships. Perhaps this school isn't ready to publish student nudity, but I think it might just be ready for an advice column. And hey, maybe a little gossip wouldn't hurt.

So e-mail me (fhvrt@gmail.com) and tell me what you want. Don't make me take your hand and walk you through it. It would violate my principles.

*Blake Smith is a sex columnist for The Flat Hat. He's very, very open ... to all types of questions you might have.*

Write for Variety and feel the love, baby. Contact us at fhvrt@wm.edu

# Films expose food issues

By Matthew A. Nolan  
The Flat Hat

The Anthropology Club, an organization keen on the culture, linguistics and archeology of humanity, is screening four documentaries that will run tonight and tomorrow night. The "Food for Thought" Film Festival will focus on the environmental, socio-economic and geo-political consequences of our modern food method and explore the sustainable alternatives of smaller-scale family farming and organic agriculture.

The four films, which will be shown over the course of two evenings, all struggle with the same point of view: the industry of modern food is harming us, either physically or culturally. The term "modern food" sounds ridiculously encompassing; most people think that our culture's truly damaging foods are found exclusively at McDonald's. These films argue otherwise. In fact, they assert that everything, from the vegetables in our salads to the cereals in our bowls are the products of artificial manipulation, soil contamination and even economic servitude.

More than that, the documentaries assert the need for change and provide convincing alternatives. Inspiration for competing models originates everywhere, from isolated multi-family farms to ancestral Mayan methods of farming in the rainforest.

"There are other ways of doing things," senior Catherine Bailey, president of the Anthropology Club, said. She thinks these issues strike close to home and finds them especially relevant for the College, which has close ties to the neighboring local economy.

"We have a Farmer's Market. Kids [can] get involved with local agriculture," Bailey said. She also noted other on-campus groups of interest, including Roots and Shoots and Organic Growers.

Friday night focuses on the downside of modern food manufacturing in the United States. The first film, "Fed Up!," argues that the vast majority of our food supply contains genetically-engineered ingredients and that the biotechnology industry is going to incredible lengths to convince consumers that genetically-engineered food is not only the way of the future, but necessary. Described as humorous and compelling, "Fed Up!" makes use

of old archival footage and interviews with farmers, scientists and government officials to examine our current food production methods, as well as activism in response to them.

The next film addresses family farms specifically. "A Time to Act for Family Farms" is a half-hour comparison between the modern conglomerate farm and the new type of family farm that is run by multiple families. It assesses practices in soil conservation, animal husbandry, quality-of-product and fair labor practices in an expose against the factory farm.

Tomorrow night's films address the impact modern food production has worldwide and how modern food may be undermining the effort to eliminate hunger. The first film, "The Global Banquet," explores how a quickly globalizing planet is leaving developing countries behind and how free trade leads to increased worldwide hunger, despite an overabundance of food. It also examines the works of activists trying to rewrite the allegedly unfair trade policies.

The second film of the night is "In Good Hands," a documentary on the culture and agriculture of the indigenous Maya and Chiapas in the southern Mexican Lacandon Rainforest. Perhaps the most anthropologically concerned of the movies, "In Good Hands," follows Dr. James Nations as he observes the Lacandon methods of farming in the rainforest. While also discussing the indigenous culture, mythology and religion, this documentary focuses on the Lacandon method as an alternative to current destructive modern farming practices.

Overall, the films push an agenda against environmentally-unsound corporate agriculture, as well as genetically-engineered produce. This attitude is being embraced by many colleges across America that serve organic foods exclusively. Yale University, for example, recently opted for an entirely organic cafeteria.

"It all starts with young people," Bailey said, whose personal favorite was "The Global Banquet." She added that she is hoping for high student attendance.

"You'll learn something," she added.

The "Food for Thought" Film Festival starts tonight and continues on Saturday. The films will be shown from 4 to 6 p.m. each night in the Tucker Theatre.

# ANGST

FROM PAGE 7

to electric guitar solos to chords similar to those commonly found in funk or reggae songs.

The turntables add another dimension on top of everything else, mixing up the melodies and adding another hip-hop element to the mix.

The heart of Sole Somatic's sound, however, is the vocals. The lyrics are not as hard-hitting


or vulgar as some hip-hop songs (although several of their songs do have an edge to them), and they often feature religious themes. This sample is taken from their song "Nothing to Say": "This world is dying/Sunday morning's still segregated/We haven't seen unity since the book of Revelation."

Tonight marks Sole Somatic's first performance in Williamsburg. When asked if the band was excited about the show, Herring said, "Definitely. In fact, we had a practice today where we organized


our set list. Our D.J. even has something special for the show."

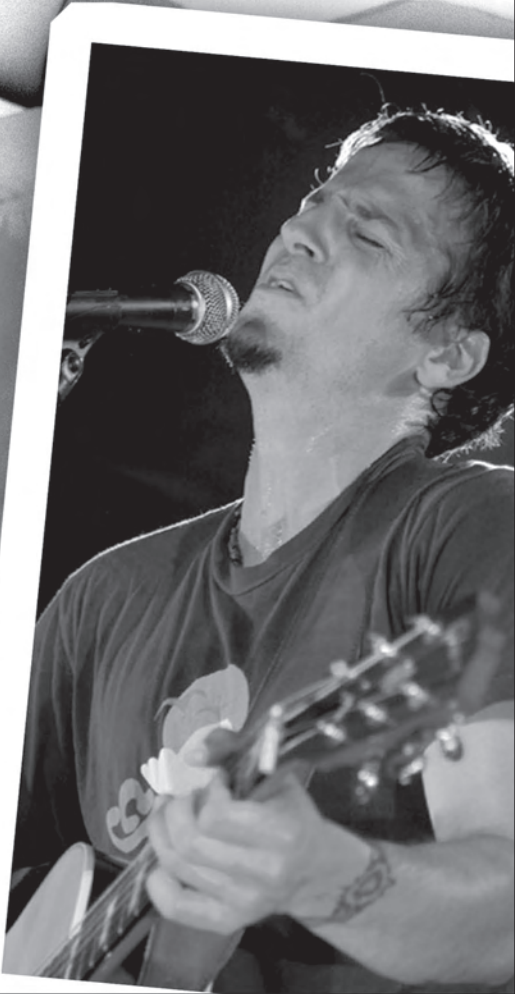
The band has several shows coming up in the near future, but they are not currently on tour. As far as their plans to record again go, Herring said, "there has been talk of studio time this winter, but nothing has been decided on yet."

Combine all of the band's unique musical elements with an energetic live show, and you've got the prescription for a great Fridays@5 concert at the UC terrace.





CAB presents  
**Josh Kelley**  
& Michael Tolcher  
in concert  
Ferguson Center for the Arts





For Tickets visit the  
Ferguson Center for the Arts Ticket Office,  
call 757-594-8752  
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**September 16**  
CNU Students: \$3 in advance - \$5 at door  
General Public: \$10 in advance- \$15 at door





Kate Watson:  
3.65 GPA  
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\*connectedthinking

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS 



# REVIEWS



He knocked up Jen Lindley. So why is he still unhappy?  
See Gossip, page 12.

## DIRECTOR DAHL TRIUMPHS IN ‘GREAT’ POW DRAMA

By BETH SUTHERLAND  
THE FLAT HAT

Though they occasionally pass over the silver screen in a flash of intense and fleeting brilliance, serious war movies are a rarity in modern Hollywood. When they do come, they are often left to stand in the shadows of more light-hearted flicks (who doesn’t remember the year “Shakespeare in Love” beat out “Saving Private Ryan”?). Thankfully, another has been added to the stack.

For those who loved “Black Hawk Down” and “We Were Soldiers” and thirst for more of the same, John Dahl’s “The Great Raid” comes highly recommended. It recounts the tale of the most successful raid in U.S. history: the raid of the Cabanatuan POW Camp. Sound familiar? Probably not. That’s because it’s one of the least-known tales of triumph in our nation’s history. If this movie is good for anything (and it certainly is), it’s for finally incorporating a daring and amazing victory into popular American history. Starring Benjamin Bratt, James Franco, Connie Nielson and Joseph Fiennes, the movie brings the personages of the past to life. It incorporates actual World War II footage at the beginning and end of the movie,

giving the story life. The surrounding history is intriguing, tragic and ultimately, uplifting.

Lt. Col. Mucci (Bratt) has been training a company of rangers for engagement in the Philippines. The Japanese have made significant gains, and McArthur was ordered to leave the islands three years ago. Tens of thousands of soldiers were left behind. At the mercy of the Japanese, they were forced on a long, brutal march, now known as the Bataan Death March. The few survivors were placed in various camps, and most died of starvation or disease or were burned alive. At the start of the movie there are only 500 left. These men are of no strategic importance to the war effort and are in the bowels of Japanese-occupied territory. Most any other country would have left them where they were, but as the film tries to make clear, the United States is not “any other country.” Thus, they concoct a plan to extract the sick, crippled men from their deathtrap. Although it’s not overly graphic, the film doesn’t gloss over the facts. Unbeknownst to many, the Japanese treated their prisoners with just as much, or more, barbarism as the Nazis did theirs. Like the war in the Pacific, however, their war crimes received less press. Brutal torture, deliberate starvation, beatings, mass

murders, hard labor and medicinal deprivation are all a way of life for these remaining few. There, behind barbed wire, Americans endured inhumanities that make Abu Ghraib look like a walk in the park.

Company commander Captain Prince (Franco) leads the raid to save them and hugely succeeds. Up against thousands of garrisoned Japanese troops, the little raid team uses surprise, ingenuity and heavy firepower to free the 500 with only two casualties and the death of one rescued POW. Thanks to the power of the movie and its individualist, life-affirming undertones, these losses are unbelievably upsetting. No loss is a small loss. The viewer’s heart swells when Prince fires the red flare that signifies the raid is finally over. The POWs, who have waited three miserable years, are finally liberated.

“The Great Raid” is not presented in as epic a style as “Private Ryan” and isn’t as overwhelming as “We Were Soldiers” is said to be. Rather, it’s classically done. True tales of spies and underground organizations are interwoven with fictitious tales of romance and longing to create a very human story. It’s an under-glamorized

See ‘GREAT’ + page 12



COURTESY PHOTOS + DIMENSION FILMS  
CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Marton Csokas as Major Redding, Mark Consuelos as Gutierrez, James Carpinello as Aliteri, Joseph Fiennes as Gibson and Logan Green as Colvin.



### In the trenches

History has been kind to war flicks. Who doesn’t love “Casablanca,” or “Paths of Glory”? Herewith, a look at some of the late 90s and early 2000s’ best war film offerings.



**“Saving Private Ryan” (1998)**  
Steven Spielberg’s World War II drama offers some of film’s most visceral depictions of combat ever, including a harrowing D-Day invasion sequence.



**“Black Hawk Down” (2001)**  
Ridley Scott goes for broke in this breathless depiction of a U.S. military mission in Mogadishu gone horribly awry. A messy, chaotic take on the hell that is war.



**“We Were Soldiers” (2002)**  
“Braveheart” screenwriter Randall Wallace reteams with Mel Gibson in this prosaic, often middling Vietnam War film.  
— compiled by kyle meikle

## My Morning Jacket returns with airy, ambient sound of ‘Z’



By CONOR MCKAY  
THE FLAT HAT

The music world of the 2000s has looked to the anglo-chic culture for good music, and for awhile that worked. Interpol, for example, is amazing. Franz Ferdinand? Sign me up. But now what do we have? The Bravery, The Killers, Kaiser Chiefs and Louis XIV. The same genre that produced great albums like “Turn on the Bright Lights” has produced “No Brakes,” “Hot Fuss,” “Employment” and “The Best Little Secrets are Kept.” Somebody always has to ruin it.

Yes, the anglo-phile in me has died just like the emo kid me died last week. Therefore, the time has come for a new reigning champion to take center stage. If you please, I give you Americana.

For the past five years, the genre has been percolat-

ing, and now it’s finally ready to be put on the table for the music world to feast on and be merry. With Sufjan Stevens’ Chaucer-esque quest to produce 50 states’ albums well underway, The Shins being the band that will change your life, The Flaming Lips and Beck touring together for the betterment of society and Wilco being Wilco, the stars are aligning for a takeover. Now is when those fringe bands who have been on the verge of blowing up for years can finally make it: bands like the ever talented My Morning Jacket.

Since their first release in 1999, My Morning Jacket has drawn comparisons to nearly every noteworthy U.S. band since the 50s, and every one of them is warranted. They’ve been credited with influences ranging from the classics — Neil Young, Bob Dylan, Television, Lou Reed and the Velvet — to the completely different, rather experimental Mercury Rev. If Wilco is the American Radiohead, My Morning Jacket sounds like a Pink Floyd from the heartland (so what if it’s the wrong decade).



COURTESY + MYMORNINGJACKET.COM

They carry the same jam band feel as a Mercury Rev, but their songs are much more concise. Jim James’ song-writing has sharpened since the band’s inception and now they have the ability to sweep in and out of pop seamlessly. Listening to a My Morning Jacket album is like taking a monumental road trip — one straight across the U. S. of A. You may never be quite sure if you have a destination or if you’re just along for the ride, but it doesn’t seem to matter. My Morning Jacket plays music that can feel almost transcendent. “Z” follows suit with their previous three releases, keeping the reverb high, the guitars airy, the top down and the wind in your hair. It picks up right where “It Still Moves” (2003) left off, and where “The Tennessee Fire” (1999) and “At Dawn” (2001) left off before that — somewhere west of the Mississippi.

“It Still Moves,” My Morning Jacket’s first major label release, managed to break into the mainstream and

See ‘Z’ + page 12

## ‘Buffy’ buff revels in unique, other-worldly glow of fan fave ‘Firefly’

### CRITICAL CONDITION



Tristan Lejeune

There’s this t-shirt cycling around comic-cons and D&D sessions and closets that contain more than one cape. It looks “Star Wars” in font and character, but it’s not. It even quotes “Star Wars,” but trust me, it isn’t “Star Wars.” Its back reads “There is another ...” i.e. hope, i.e. life after Lucas, and, like myself, that geeky garment is here to tell you about a cult artist whose mainstream breakthrough is as inevitable as Anakin’s turn to the dark side. The front of the shirt reads “Joss Whedon is My Master Now.” Shiny.

Among the more brilliant auteurs whose capricious muses draw them to television (David Chase, J.J. Abrams), Whedon is alone in two very important respects: he’s a comic book nerd, and he’s got a big screen adaptation coming out this month. But pardon me, where are my manners? Introductions first. For a writer/director whose credits include “Rosanne,” “Toy Story” and “Alien Resurrection,” Whedon is remarkably one-note in the public eye. You know, he’s that

“Buffy” guy.

“Buffy the Vampire Slayer,” she of the horrible title, ridiculous concept and simply stunning execution, gets only a couple of reactions from people; either they adore it or they’ve seen less than three episodes. In its seven seasons one finds Whedon’s major leitmotifs introduced and realized: highly-evolved feminism, iron-solid group dynamics and an ironic sense of humor I am simply at a loss to describe. Now take those three, project them 500 years into the future, trade up for a male protagonist who flies around with a renegade crew and you’ve got an insta-canceled TV show, classification “Firefly,” way better than most of the shit still on the air.

The Western and Sci-Fi genres have never really been strange bedfellows, from the frontier style “Star Trek” to all the “Searcher” found in “A New Hope,” but it took a keen pop-culture archer’s eye to finally Cupid them into consummating the union.

“Firefly” is the lovechild. The characters carry six-shooters at their hips, medicine and food are fought-after commodities and there ain’t hardly no law in these parts. Also, they travel at intergalactic speeds, forever on the run from the evil, oppressive Alliance. The credit sequence features a spaceship scaring a herd of horses — it all makes sense really. And that, gentle readers, is the most basic of basic descriptions, more of a launching pad, really. Whedon’s unique skill is in creating a self-contained world (a Jossverse they call it) with its own customs, slang and standards. Scratching the surface for just a couple examples, people refer to seeing each other “in the world” or “getting out of the world” in indication of a particular planet or moon. Oh, and prostitutes, called Companions, are among the most honored figures in society with their own academy, even a guild.

So why am I telling you about a show that didn’t even get all of its 14 episodes aired? Well for one thing, there’s DVD. But

far more significantly, “Serenity,” the big-screen adaptation, truly a miracle of second chances (and lo, there were studio execs with taste) comes out Sept. 30.

Following that date you’ll find my review of “Serenity” in The Flat Hat but, to get melodramatic for a moment, by then it may be too late. The future of Captain Malcolm Reynolds (Nathan Fillion), who is like Kirk with charm ... and wit ... and an unrequited love interest ... actually, he’s nothing like Kirk. In any event, his future hangs in the balance, people. The film is designed both to please rabid fans and introduce those as require a good introduction, and its success guarantees the story’s continuance. You know the rules: big gross, big sequel. What do you think, one archetype-rich Sci-Fi classic concludes and another begins in the same year? Almost too good to resist. This galaxy isn’t far, far away; it’s right here and you’d

See ‘FIREFLY’ + page 12





**HIGH NOTES**  
*Pretty In Black*  
— **The Raveonettes**

The Raveonettes look backwards on their stellar third effort, a fuzzy, dirty reimagining of 50s and 60s pop in the vein of bands like The Shirelles (whose classic “My Boyfriend’s Back” is covered as a sexy synth romp here). Songs like “Love In A Trashcan” bristle with dark attraction.

— *compiled by kyle meikle*

**BILLBOARD TOP 10 SINGLES**

1. *We Belong Together* — **Mariah Carey**
2. *Shake It Off* — **Mariah Carey**
3. *Don't Cha* — **The Pussycat Dolls featuring Busta Rhymes**
4. *Lose Control* — **Missy Elliot featuring Ciara and Fat Man Scoop**
5. *Let Me Hold You* — **Bow Wow featuring Omarion**
6. *Pon de Replay* — **Rihanna**
7. *Like You* — **Bow Wow featuring Ciara**
8. *You And Me* — **Lifehouse**
9. *Behind These Hazel Eyes* — **Kelly Clarkson**
10. *Listen To Your Heart* — **D.H.T.**

**HOLLYWOOD GOSSIP**

**Lopez sparks pregnancy rumors**

Pop star, actress and diva-at-large Jennifer Lopez caused quite a stir last week when she bought a bunch of children’s clothing at Los Angeles clothing store Petit Tresor. The staff initially assumed the clothing was for friends or family, but the “Monster-In-Law” star specified that the items were for her, sparking speculation that she and husband Marc Anthony may be expecting. Mom-to-be Britney Spears was spotted at the same store last month.



**Simpson shies from church**

“Dukes of Hazzard” star Jessica Simpson confessed recently that she’s shied away from her strict Christian upbringing. The pop icon, whose father is a Baptist minister, famously got her start in Christian music and was widely know to have refused premarital sex with husband Nick Lachey. Simpson, who came under fire recently from the Christian community because of a racy music video, said that her life in Hollywood has little in common with her early life as a Southern Baptist.



**Ledger denounces stardom**

Hollywood hunk Heath Ledger was so sick of being Hollywood hunk Heath Ledger that he purposefully took roles to derail his career, the actor repeatedly said. Ledger, who first garnered attention in teen flicks like “10 Things I Hate About You” complained in a recent interview that he didn’t like the movies he was making early in his career, so much so that he started taking parts other actors declined. The star can fittingly next be seen as a gay cowboy in “Brokeback Mountain.”



**Miller confides in Law**

Actress Sienna Miller has shocked and surprised many of her fans by revealing that much of the support she’s received since finding out (ex?) fiancée Jude Law cheated on her has come from Law himself. The “Alfie” star said Law has been an invaluable support in her time of distress, despite the fact that his month-long affair with nanny Daisy Wright is at the heart of the matter. Law and Miller had been seen talking recently in London.

— *compiled by kyle meikle*

**WCWM  
90.9 FM  
FALL 2005  
PROGRAMMING  
SCHEDULE**

**SUNDAY**  
Mid.-2 a.m.: James Chase Coleman  
“Freedom of Music”  
2-4 p.m.: Anne Gessler  
“Music from Under Anne’s Bed”  
4-6 p.m.: Mika Mason  
“Naive Melody”  
6-8 p.m.: Matt Hoffman  
8-10 p.m.: Andy Smith  
“2 Hours of Awesome”

**MONDAY**  
Mid.-2 AM: Matt Sherrill  
6-8 p.m.: Rachel Scheer  
“Ray-list”  
8-10 p.m.: Chip Cotton  
10-Mid.: John Carriger  
  
**TUESDAY**  
Mid.-2 a.m.: Russ Waddell  
“Russ’ Hit List”

4-6 p.m.: Roy Lenn  
“The Power of Suggestion”  
6-8 p.m.: Clayton Carr  
“The Clayton and Dave Show”  
8-Mid.: David Richards  
“Krad Radio”  
  
**WEDNESDAY**  
10-Noon: Emily Flowers  
“WCWM

World Music”  
6-8 p.m.: Chris Elko  
“120 British Minutes”  
8-10 p.m.: Steve Calder and Abbie Pugh  
10-Mid.: Brian Kelley  
“Party O’Clock”  
  
**THURSDAY**  
Mid.-2 a.m.: Josh Specht/  
David Sievers  
“Six Degrees of

Separation.”  
Noon-2 p.m.: Eric Van Orman  
4-6 p.m.: Sammy Rogers  
“Sammy Sam’s Jammy Jams”  
6-8 p.m.: Adam Burks  
“The Six O’Clock Hammer Party with Johnny Skruggs”  
8-10 p.m.: Keyan Shahdi  
“Time Rotation”

10 p.m.-Mid.: Andrew Miller  
  
**FRIDAY**  
12-2 p.m.: Patrick Donaldson  
“Shakedown Street”  
2-4 p.m.: Alex Leon  
“Radio Futura”  
5 p.m.: Sandy Lesberg  
“Sandy Lesberg’s World”

6-8 p.m.: Sean Fox  
8-10 p.m.: Amy Shields  
“Get Ready to Live”  
10-Mid.: Ian Grymes  
“Everything Hip-Hop”  
  
**SATURDAY**  
10-Noon: Bret Coates  
“The Session”  
Noon-2 PM: Daryl Cameron  
“The Dog’s Bullocks”

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**‘Z’**

FROM PAGE 11

even made it onto MTV2 (although it never did drop that appended number). “Z” may not be as poppy as “It Still Moves,” lacking a clear radio single, but it still does a great job of getting your head bobbing, your fingers tapping and your heart beating in time. After all, The Flaming Lips’ “Yoshimi Battles the Pink Robots” didn’t have a clear single either, and it wasn’t even as great as their previous album “The Soft Bulletin,” but it is what propelled the band into the public eye. “Z” certainly deserves listeners, and maybe now’s the perfect time for an album like this.

**‘GREAT’**

FROM PAGE 11

sort of film noir. The music and direction are beautiful, and the complex character of the soldier is treated with respect, reverence and humanity. Bratt endearingly plays the somewhat stereotypically driven, pipe-smoking officer. Franco breaks out as a serious actor. His character is a quiet one, but Franco’s subtle expressions and solemn eyes make evident the weighty responsibilities that lie on his shoulders. Best of all, however, is Fiennes, whose signature dewy-eyed passion lends a forlorn romance to the narrative. Fiennes plays the commanding officer of

the POWs, who is suffering from malaria. He is painfully intense and effectively embodies the anger and suffering of all the prisoners; he’s the archetypal POW. As in many war movies, colors are dull and some scenes are shot in a grayish hue to soften the pallet. This effect, combined with a moving script and compelling narrative, makes for a phenomenal, evocative film. It’s definitely deserving of an Oscar nod but has not gotten much attention thus far and was poorly advertised. Movies like this aren’t simply entertainment, though; they’re chances for patriotic growth. As always, it’s hard to watch the best and bravest endure such agony without feeling a deep sense of indebtedness and sorrow.

**‘FIREFLY’**

FROM PAGE 11

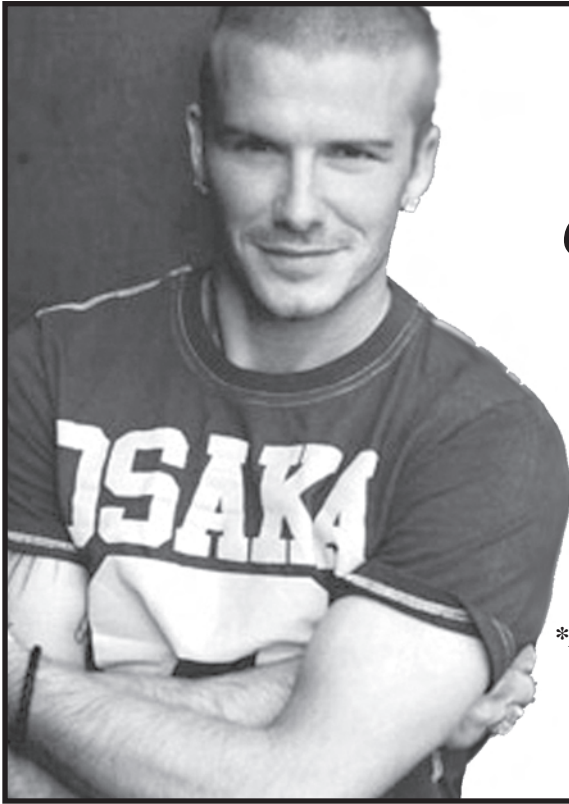
love it. One day soon, mark my words, everyone will know the name of Joss Whedon. He’s slated to do the freakin’ “Wonder Woman” movie for chrissake. I’m not worried about Joss; Joss will be fine. But this is make-it-or-break-it for the “Firefly” gang. Nothing changes, days go by, but me, I need “Serenity.” Captain Whedon? No power in the `verse can stop him.

Tristan Lejeune is a Flat Hat Staff Writer. Please tell him to stop making “Serenity now!” jokes.

**Flat Hat Reviews.**

**Celebrity endorsed.**

**Seriously.\***



*\*Not really. But we love celebs. If you do too, consider writing for us. Contact fhrvws@wm.edu for details.*



# BRIEFS

## Diverse women

The Diverse Women Group is an organization for women who identify themselves as members of an ethnic minority group on campus. The group is intended to address the ramifications of being minority women at the College and build a supportive network for group members. The group will help participants explore, in a safe environment, personal, academic, spiritual, family and/or relationship concerns that may be interfering with a sense of balance and well-being. If interested in joining, please contact Dr. Carina Sudarsky-Gleiser or Dr. Felicia Brown-Anderson at x3620 or via at [cxsuda@wm.edu](mailto:cxsuda@wm.edu) and [fxbrow@wm.edu](mailto:fxbrow@wm.edu).

## Boathouse open

The Lake Matoaka Boathouse is now open. Come rent a canoe or kayak for free with your student ID card (one boat per ID). Hours of operation for Fall 2005 are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 3 to 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m. First come, first served. Alcohol, fishing and swimming are not permitted. The boathouse will be closed during inclement weather.

## Film festival

Come to the “Food for Thought Film Festival” sponsored by the Anthropology Club. The festival will include the screening of documentaries on the environmental, socio-economic and geopolitical consequences of our modern food system; sustainable alternatives of smaller-scale family farming and organic agriculture. The festival will be held in Tucker Theater (Room 120) today and tomorrow. “Fed Up!: Genetic Engineering, Industrial Agriculture and Sustainable Alternatives” will show at 4 p.m. today and “A Time to Act for Family Farms” will show at 5:15 p.m. today. “The Global Banquet: By Invitation Only” will show at 4 p.m. tomorrow and “In Good Hands: Culture and Agriculture in the Lacandon Rainforest” will show at 5 p.m. tomorrow.

## Book sale

The Friends of the Library organization is holding their annual book sale from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 24 and 1 to 5 p.m. Sept. 25 in the Botetourt Gallery in Earl Gregg Swem Library. Hardcover books are \$4; paperbacks are \$1. Everything will be half price Sept. 25.

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For a continued look into the world of W&M Sports, see RECRUITMENT, page 16.

# Field hockey falls to sticky Tar Heels

By Andrew Pike  
The Flat Hat

The W&M field hockey team succumbed to the fast-tempo play of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill Tar Heels 1-3 as their

## Look ahead

**Who:** Kent State  
**Date:** Tomorrow  
**Where:** Syracuse, N.Y.  
**Time:** 2 p.m.



came to be W&M's only goal in the 28th minute off an assist from junior defender Jamie Fitzgerald.

"We started and held the pace of the game in the first half and got a beautiful goal out of it," senior midfielder Shannon Karl said.

The score remained the same until early in the second half when UNC tied it 1-1. UNC took the lead for good during the 55th minute when they scored two goals in just 65 seconds, moving up 3-1.

"I would say we controlled the first half. Second half we let them run, and that hurt us. They love to use quick in [and] out passes along the sides, and when we let that get started, we resorted to chase mode," Head Coach Peel Hawthorne said. "We did not have our best defensive game today, but they have a lot of weapons, and it's a challenge to keep little errors from becoming big ones."

The Tar Heels out-shot the Tribe eight to 12 and had more penalty corners, seven to W&M's four. Nevertheless, the Tribe took some positives away from the

field: scoring the first goal UNC has allowed this season and having an opportunity to play a high-quality opponent.

"We play a lot of quality teams, UNC is just one of them. They have a lot of talent and speed and confidence based on a long history of success at the highest levels," Hawthorne said. "Top teams usually bring out the best in us."

The Tribe knows its regular season slate is challenging — eight teams on the schedule competed in the 2004 NCAA Tournament — but relishes the chance to play great teams.

"We've got a difficult schedule and playing teams like UNC just makes us stronger, no matter the outcome of the game," senior defender Diana Esposito said.

Even with a demanding schedule the Tribe feels confident about the season and has high expectations.

"I have great expectations for this team. We should be contenders for the CAA [title] and for a bid to the NCAA [tournament]," Hawthorne said. "Anything less will be a disappointment, but it will take a lot of hard work and determination."

Last year saw the Tribe run the table in the CAA regular season finishing 7-0; however, the Tribe lost in the semifinals of the CAA tournament and failed to reach the NCAA tournament.

"We have the potential to not only be undefeated in conference play again this year, but to have a successful postseason as well," Esposito said.

The Tribe looks to start combining well-played games and winning this weekend as they travel to Syracuse, N.Y. to play Kent State tomorrow and Syracuse University Sunday.

## KICKING OFF THE SEASON



ALLIE VEINOTE • THE FLAT HAT

Senior place-kicker Greg Kuehn kicks off during practice. The Tribe opened their season with a 24-36 loss to Marshall University. Late in the third quarter the Tribe led 24-23, with junior tailback Elijah Brooks rushing for a career-high 149 yards on 28 attempts. A Tribe fumble, however, allowed the Thundering Herd to get ahead and eventually win the game. The Tribe plays Virginia Military Institute tomorrow.



ALLIE VEINOTE • THE FLAT HAT

Senior defender Diana Esposito plucks the ball from her opponent.

# Men's soccer whips St. Joseph's 8-0

By Jeff Dooley  
The Flat Hat

The men's soccer team got their season off on the right foot with an 8-0 trouncing of St. Joseph's University last Saturday night at Albert-Daly Field.

## Look ahead

**Who:** Rhode Island  
**Date:** Sept 11  
**Where:** Norfolk, Va  
**Time:** 12 p.m.



The Tribe started quickly with two goals by freshman forward Andrew Hoxie and another by senior back Clayton Voss, all within the first 10 minutes of play.

The team didn't let up after that, as the fourth goal of the evening came from senior forward Andreas Nydal with 3:34 to go in the first half.

The Tribe dominated play in the first 45 minutes, out-shooting St. Joseph's 12-2, and displayed crisp passing and tough defense to go along with the offensive outburst.

Nydal picked up where he left off in the second half, scoring a goal with 29:48 to go. The goal was the 15th of his career.

Junior forward Jarrett Thomas continued the onslaught, scoring a goal off the assist of

redshirt freshman midfielder Brock Jones with 14:34 to go in the game, giving the Tribe a 6-0 lead.

Jones then scored a goal of his own with just under 13 minutes to go, and followed that up by assisting Thomas again just three minutes later for Thomas' second goal of the evening and the first since his freshman year.

The Tribe dominated play from start to finish. They out-shot St. Joseph's 25-3 for the game and maintained their intensity throughout, despite their considerable lead, with junior goalkeeper Kris Rake still barking out commands in the waning moments of the 8-0 game.

The offensive outburst was surprising considering the team never scored more than two goals in a game last season and finished with a total of only 20 goals over last season's 20 games.

One particularly surprising aspect of the game was Hoxie's immediate offensive impact as a freshman. His two goals even surprised Head Coach Chris Norris.

"I was surprised by how quickly Andrew was able to assert himself," Norris said. "We had no doubts that he would help us right away, but it really was a dream start for him to get two goals in the first 10 minutes."

Rake played the entire game and was

untested, as none of St. Joseph's three shots were on goal. It was Rake's ninth career shut-out.

The entire team played solid, mistake-free soccer. They accumulated no offsides penalties and only received two cards, both of them yellow. The team made very few mistakes and were never caught out of position.

The defense was especially solid, quickly snuffing out any scoring opportunity for their opponents. They had to play without junior defenseman Jeff Markley, who had to sit out the game after receiving a red card in the final game of last season. Backs John Lee, Doug McBride, Ryan Sells and Voss played well in his absence.

Despite the blowout win, Norris still found ways for his team to improve.

"With only one game under our belts, we still have a lot of self-discovery to come," Norris said. "We were concerned about many of the unforced errors we made in possession, especially in the defensive and middle thirds of the field. We also felt that our defensive heading needs significant improvement."

The team plays today at 4:30 p.m. against No. 13 Clemson University, and then again Sunday at noon against the University of Rhode Island in the Stihl Soccer Classic in Norfolk, Va.

## FROM THE SIDELINES



Carl Siegmund

Soon the leaves will be falling and baseball playoffs will be starting. The hunt for October is in full swing. Most of the division races are pretty much locked up, while the wild card races are still out there for the taking. In the American League, three teams are in the wild card race, while in the National League five teams are vying for the last coveted playoff spot.

In the American League, I believe the New York Yankees will take the wild card. The Yankees currently lead the race with the Cleveland Indians and Oakland Athletics hot on their trail. Of these three teams, the Indians have the most favorable schedule. They play about two thirds of their remaining games at home, and the last of their opponents' winning percentage is .484. The Yankees will play about half of their games on the road and face slightly better competition, but regardless this team is starting to heat up after seeming dormant for most of the season.

The Athletics are in an interesting predicament. They are about a game off the pace in the AL West division race and wild card race. I think that to make the playoffs they will need to overcome the division-leading Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. This is the most likely scenario for them getting in the playoffs because they have four head-to-head games at home with the Angels in the last week of the season, while they do not have any remaining games with either the Indians or Yankees. The biggest problem hurting their chances is that they have to play every playoff contender in the AL except the Chicago White Sox.

In the National League, I believe that the wild card race will be decided in the season's last weekend, with the Houston Astros squeaking out a playoff berth over the Florida Marlins. The Astros have a favorable schedule and a recent history of getting hot in September. They play most of their remaining games within their own division, where four of the teams have los-

ing records and the division-leading St. Louis Cardinals have pretty much sealed up home field advantage throughout the playoffs. This is a huge advantage for the Astros, because in the NL East, where the Marlin's play, every single team is above .500 and still has a lot to play for, unlike in the NL Central.

Of all the teams left in the NL wild card race, the Marlins face the most difficult uphill battle. More than 60 percent of their remaining games are on the road, and the last of their opponents' winning percentage is .532. In the next week, they not only face their division rivals the Philadelphia Phillies but also the Astros in Houston.

Last year, the Marlins were in the same position, and they ran into problems when several Florida hurricanes forced them to play numerous doubleheader makeup games on the road. They played one of their home games in Chicago against the Montreal Expos. They stumbled at the end of last year, but this year their improved and

better-conditioned young pitching staff, led by Dontrelle Willis, Josh Beckett and A.J. Burnett, may be enough to carry them to the playoffs.

At this point you may be asking why not the Phillies, Washington Nationals or New York Mets? Why won't they win the wild card? The main reason is that they are all in the middle of September slumps. When you're trying to separate yourself from the next team in your division and catch up to other teams in the wild card race, you just can't play .500 ball. Every team in the NL East has shown flashes of brilliance this year. Now, however, these three teams are clinging to faint playoff hopes. Beating up on each other during the stretch run of the season is not helping them to realize those hopes.

Those are my predictions. But this is baseball, so anything could happen. I can't wait to see how the drama plays out.

Carl Siegmund is the sports columnist for The Flat Hat.







# Recruitment issues clouded by complex NCAA rules

## Part II of an investigative series into the world of W&M sports

By HEATHER IRELAND  
THE FLAT HAT

Recruitment for varsity sports, a highly competitive process especially in Division I, often begins early in an athlete's career and normally culminates with a signed national letter of intent to the athlete's college or university of choice. At W&M the process is no less intense than that of any other institution, perhaps more so, as the academic standard of W&M surpasses those of many other Division I schools. According to field hockey Head Coach Peel Hawthorne, the recruitment process, although necessary, is difficult to carry out due to the amount of time and effort it requires to abide by the incredibly specific NCAA rules and regulations.

"The recruitment process is simply the identification and recruitment of qualified student athletes to William and Mary," Hawthorne said. "Without it, you would not see the level of success that our teams have — on the field and in the classroom."

The process itself requires a high level of NCAA-sanctioned contact between the athlete and the coach via questionnaires, brochures, phone calls, e-mails and campus visits. The Athletic Department staff evaluates the level of ability an athlete has, but the recruiter also needs to be able to gauge the level of

I meet with them is, if they were not an athlete, ... would [they] still look at the College and apply here," Stimson said. "If they say no then they are making a big mistake, because although our athletic program is impressive, academics come first."

The NCAA has rules and regulations regarding when and how a coach or approved institution representative may contact a prospect and what sort of privileges the prospects may receive during activities such as official campus visits. For example, a coach may not contact a prospect by phone until July 1st after the completion of the prospect's junior year, and even then they are only allowed one phone call per week.

"I received calls from other schools but [cross country Head] Coach [Alex] Gibby was the first to contact me as well as someone I felt I could really connect with," freshman cross country runner Daniel Gordon said. "Through several phone conversations, I learned about William and Mary academically and athletically. Coach Gibby even went out of his way to give me information about my potential major."

Concerning the guidelines set forth by the NCAA, Hawthorne said, "Our goal is 100 percent compliance, which realistically speaking is almost impossible due to the insidious nature of some of the most obscure rules. Some rules just do not make sense and



LAUREN BRYANT • THE FLAT HAT  
*A swimming coach conferences with a swimmer after a heat. During recruitment, coaches are severely restricted in their contact with prospective recruits. Coaches are only allowed one phone call a week to prospects.*



ALLIE VEINOTE • THE FLAT HAT  
*The volleyball team performs a group bonding ritual. How well a recruit fits into the team is an important factor in the recruit's being asked to attend the College. Current team members have some say in this process.*

interest the athlete has in the school so as not to waste time or funds unnecessarily.

In addition to requiring large time commitments from athletic staff members, institution-supported funds also lend themselves to the inefficiency of the recruitment process. The amount allotted to each team varies according to the needs of the team for that specific year, depending on where the prospective student athletes, or prospects, are located — in-state or across the country. Emily Arena, a newly recruited freshman on the cross country team, explained that her recruitment included an all-expenses paid visit to W&M, one of about 25 to 30 the track and field team affords each year.

The prospect is not required to sign a national letter of intent until later in his or her senior year, but many, like field hockey freshman Lauren Giles, often commit themselves to the team earlier in the process in order to reserve a spot on the team.

"During fall of senior year when I went on my official paid two-night visit to W&M, I had a great experience getting to hang out with the freshmen and meeting the people on the team, so I decided to commit to the team," Giles said. "Then later in February, I signed a contract to William and Mary to make it official that I was going to play varsity field hockey."

The cross country and track and field teams have a few thousand dollars per gender to pay expenses for official visits. During which it is very important that the prospect sees what the college is really like so he or she can decide to attend based on truth rather than fallacy. Director of track and field Dan Stimson normally recommends the prospects bring books and work from their high school classes when they come for their on-campus visit, as their student hosts will often spend quite a bit of time doing their own work rather than entertaining the prospect.

"One of the first things I ask the prospect when

seem to defy common sense or common courtesy; you cannot rely on instinct."

When asked about any "perks" the prospects might receive while on campus, all coaches stressed the fact that no such thing is allowed within the NCAA policies. According to the NCAA rulebook, in which there are approximately 46 pages dedicated to the recruitment process alone, all travel expenses,

room accommodation and on-campus meals for the prospects and their parents are to be paid for by the college and a maximum of \$30 per day is allotted to the prospect's student host on campus to be used for entertainment purposes. The regulation of the \$30 also takes up space in the rulebook, forbidding any of the money to go toward souvenirs or t-shirts and the like. Any "perks" the recruited athletes might enjoy are completely sanctioned by the NCAA.

"If you consider sleeping on a mattress in a dorm, getting a campus tour from me, and eating at the Caf a perk, then we have perks galore," Gibby said.

Once the athletes have enrolled at W&M, they receive a few other benefits, such as being allowed to sign up for classes a week before the rest of the freshman class. Also, recruits have the added benefit of additional financial aid, although the scholarships are also limited by NCAA regulations, and the provision of some of their equipment.

"One of the only perks is that I received some money in the way of scholarships along with some free items pertinent to our athletic participation, like shoes," cross country freshman Rebecca Ward said.

Deciding which college to attend academically and compete for athletically is extremely difficult, as most of

the students who are able to attend W&M have the option of attending just about any college of their choice. There are, however, a few slots per team that the admissions office allows coaches to hold for a few key athletes who may not be able to make it through the admissions process on their own. If admissions truly feels the athlete will not do well at W&M, the coach will normally concede and save that spot for another athlete.

The current team members also have a say in whether or not they feel the prospect would do well at the College and how well they would gel with the team. Stimson tells his athletes that if they want to have a good team, they are going to have to help him recruit. All coaches stress team unity, even in those sports that are not generally viewed as employing teamwork, because even then the individuals need the support of their teammates to continue to thrive as an athlete.

"The team here at the College was probably the biggest selling point, as well as the coaching. It is basically one big family, and I felt comfortable from the first time I met the guys," cross-country freshman Cabell Rosanelli said. "I wouldn't say cross-country runners get preferential treatment necessarily because, unlike the football players, we don't really stand out all that much. However, on my recruiting visit while eating in the Caf, random people came up to the team and asked how the team was doing. That was something I didn't find at [the University of Virginia]."

Women's soccer Head Coach John Daly said that it is difficult to judge how effective recruitment is, as it varies year to year depending on how the team is performing, how far away the possible recruits live and so on.

"I think William and Mary Athletics represents the best of what collegiate athletics should be," Hawthorne said. "I consider W&M to be a national model."



ALLIE VEINOTE • THE FLAT HAT  
*CENTER: Field hockey Head Coach Peel Hawthorne surveys her playbook. ABOVE: The field hockey team gives a round of applause after an exciting game.*